Municipality/Organization:	Town of Weymouth
EPA NPDES Permit Number:	MA041070
MaDEP Transmittal Number:	**W-035571**
Annual Report Number & Reporting Period:	**No. 3: March 05 - March 06**

PV

NPDES PII Small MS4 General Permit Annual Report

Part I. General Information

Contact Person: Andrew P. (Chip) Fontaine, P.E. Title: Town Engineer

Telephone #: 781-337-5100, ext. 318 Email: cfontaine@weymouth.ma.us

Certification:

I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.

Signature: David M. Madden

Printed Name: David M. Madden

Title: Mayor

Date: 2/26/06

Part II. Self-Assessment

In 2001, the Town of Weymouth ("Town") entered into a $200,000 contract with engineering consultants BETA Group, Inc. ("BETA"), to develop a watershed master plan for Whitman's Pond which, in separate sections, is both a recreational resource and part of the Town's drinking water supply. That project included analysis of stormwater impacts and recommendations to mitigate stormwater pollution. Half of the funding for that project was provided by the Massachusetts (MA) Department of Environmental Management ("DEM").

In 2002, the Town fully funded a $330,000 contract with BETA to create the first draft of the Town's Storm Water Management Plan (SWMP). A major component of both of these projects was to clean all town catch basins and inspect the entire drain system. The inspection data was used to create town-wide drain system mapping and data management in a Geographic Information System (GIS).

Although these projects represent a major financial commitment by the Town, as well as a significant technical data collection and analysis effort, these accomplishments are in addition to pre-existing Town stormwater management activities (nowadays referred to as Best Management Practices or "BMPs"). Some of these BMPs have been performed by the Town itself while others are being performed by grassroots organizations. These existing BMPs are identified in Part III of this report.

In July of 2004, town representatives involved with development of the SWMP met with USEPA representatives to review our program thus far (see attached letter dated 8/23/04). SWMP development efforts have since included work on the items identified in the EPA letter as identified below.

Notice of Intent (NOI)

The town has obtained plans of Massachusetts Highway Department (MHD) drainage in Weymouth in the past and will continue to do so. In recent discussion with MHD, we are told that MHD expects to locate all of their outfalls as part of their SWMP effort. We will continue to coordinate storm water management with MHD, including obtaining updated drain system/outfall mapping and providing them with our GIS drain system layer when they have the ability to utilize it. The town is currently preparing to construct a modification to an MHD drain in Rte. 53 that will redirect highway runoff away from the South Cove of Whitman's Pond which is a town supplemental drinking water supply.

Our SWMP will prioritize identification and removal/reduction of bacteria levels in storm water, particularly where pathogens are identified as impacting certain receiving waters. Our draft SWMP does identify the water bodies that are identified as Category 5 (impaired/threatened, requiring a TMDL) in the MA Integrated List of Waters [Clean Water Act Sections 303(d) and 305(b)] although MA DEP has yet to develop TMDLs for these water bodies.

The Town has completed the required self-assessment and has determined that our municipality is in compliance with all permit conditions except the following provisions:

Part II.A.1, 2 The Town has been working on complete drafts of the SWMP, written by BETA, for about two years now. It continues to be evaluated by the DPW and other affected town departments. Although the Town's NOI has attempted to identify all necessary actions to comply with Part II.B, various details of the SWMP are still being revised to ensure that the Town accomplishes the NPDES goals to the maximum extent practicable, therefore this provision is still in process of being met.

Part II.B.1-6 Any provisions of Part II.B.1 - 6 that have not been met are detailed in Part III below.

Part II.B.8 The town encourages BMPs that promote groundwater recharge and Standard 3 of the state Storm Water Management Policy. Although the town does plan to develop these, either within the SWMP, as part of the DPW Rules, Regulations and Construction Specifications, or possibly within another regulation or ordinance, specific groundwater recharge/infiltration policies have not yet been developed.

Part III. Summary of Minimum Control Measures

1. Public Education and Outreach

BMP ID #	BMP Description	Responsible Dept./Person Name	Measurable Goal(s)	Progress on Goal(s) – Permit Year 3 (Reliance on non-municipal partners indicated, if any)	Planned Activities – Permit Year 4
1-1	Classroom Education	School Dept.	High school Environmental Science class will include stormwater management issues.	Stormwater pollution awareness and management issues have been included in this class for the last 13 years. The major topics covered are: watersheds and land uses, impact of impervious surface on I/R ratios, types of non point source pollution, storm water pollutants, storm water infrastructure, storm water management and BMPs, impact of storm water on surface waters, sanitary sewers, sewage treatment and septic tanks, eutrophication and several labs dealing with testing storm water quality and the quality of the receiving surface waters.	This classroom training will continue. When finalized, the town's SWMP will be made available to the class.
Revised					
1-2	Flyer and Brochure Distribution	DPW	Obtain stormwater-related flyers and distribute them to the public	The town continued its partnership with the Greenscapes program with the North and South Rivers Watershed Association (NSRWA), other environmental agencies, and 11 other South Shore communities. Greenscapes flyers were distributed in water & sewer bills. Also mailed to all residents was the 2006 Greenscapes Reference Guide (see http://www.nsrwa.org/greenscapes/factsheets.html for online version). A large Greenscapes poster board was installed in the counter area of the DPW Water Office (see attached).	Additional flyers will be developed/ obtained and will be distributed, including as utility bill inserts.
Revised					

1-3	Using the Media	DPW	Once a year, do a local cable TV public service announcement. Twice a year do a newspaper press release/article.	Household hazardous waste day, which is held in fall and spring, was announced on cable TV, emailed to members of a town email list, posted on the South Shore Recycling Cooperative website, and published in the newspaper (see attached). Town-wide Waterfront and Whitman's Pond Cleanup Days were also identified in the newspaper (also attached). The local cable TV station was provided with the video "Reining In The Storm, One Building at a Time" that is running during their programming day.	This practice will continue with increasing focus on specific stormwater management issues. In the coming year, the EPA video "After the Storm" will be aired on local cable TV with added commentary from the Town Engineer and the Town Conservation Agent.
Revised					
1-4	Hazardous Waste Management	DPW	Conduct Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day twice a year. Will be advertised in newspaper. Quantity of waste collected will be tracked.	Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day is conducted in the spring and in the fall and is advertised (see attachment). Quantity of collected waste is recorded. 654 residents dropped off various items containing hazardous ingredients at the DPW garage. 32 paint boxes were picked up from the DPW garage; each box holds about 100 gallons, totaling 3200 gallons of paint waste. Additionally, 85 pounds of fluorescent light bulbs and 19 pounds of mercury hazardous waste were collected. The town's recycling contractor also collected 1,583 TVs, 998 computer monitors, 26 microwave ovens, 78 air conditioners and 6 refrigerators.	This practice will continue.

2. Public Involvement and Participation

BMP ID #	BMP Description	Responsible Dept./Person Name	Measurable Goal(s)	Progress on Goal(s) – Permit Year 3 (Reliance on non-municipal partners indicated, if any)	Planned Activities – Permit Year 4
2-1	Adopt-A-Stream/Drain Program	DPW	All town water bodies will be adopted. Track amount of trash removed.	The Whitman's Pond Association, the Herring Run Warden, the Isaac Walton Fishing Association, and the Fore River Watershed Association continue to "adopt" Whitman's Pond, the Herring Run, Old Swamp River, and the Fore River, respectively. Continued discussions with Mayor's office Chief of Staff about Adopt-A-Stream/Drain program. Amount of collected trash is tracked (see 2-2 below; unknown for Old Swamp River).	Will continue to work with Mayor's Chief of Staff and District Councilors on getting an Adopt-A-Stream/Drain program started. District Town Councilors will be contacted to consider notifying local groups such as civic associations, Boy Scout troupes, etc., of the possibility of adopting additional town water bodies. Amount of trash removed will be tracked.
Revised					
2-2	Pond & Stream Cleanup & Monitoring	DPW	Coordinate and track cleanup activities	Cleanup Days were held for Whitman's Pond and a 30 cubic yard (CY) roll-off dumpster was provided. The Herring Run, Old Swamp River and the Fore River cleanup days were also provided with 30 CY dumpsters. The Whitman's Pond Committee, the Herring Run Warden and the Fore River Watershed Association are non-municipal partners. DPW staff have also done stream cleanup when the need is identified.	With assistance from the DPW, the Whitman's Pond Association, the Herring Run Warden and the Isaac Walton Fishing Association, will continue to have these activities. Additional pond and stream cleanups will also be arranged based on the development of the Adopt-A-Stream/Drain Program.
Revised					
2-3	Stencil Storm Drains	DPW	Stencil 300 or more catch basins each year.	More catch basins that are in the Whitman's Pond watershed were stenciled by the Whitman's Pond Association using stencils and paint purchased by the DPW.	Additional catch basins will be stenciled.
Revised					

2-5	Community Hotlline/ Weblink	DPW	Create a Stormwater Hotline/Weblink. Track # of calls and remedied problems.	The town continued to maintain a Stormwater Web Page with a hotline/weblink. It is part of the DPW web page on the town website. http://www.weymouth.ma.us/dpw/index.asp?id=2917 There is also a link to contact the Mayor or DPW for emergencies and there are Mayor's Hotlines (800-297-5733 & 800-335-8606). And there is a town emailing list which residents can sign up for to be notified of town activities, including cleanups. The Greenscapes Newsletter is also accessible from the town DPW web page and contains a link to the Greenscapes website. http://www.weymouth.ma.us/dpw/index.asp?id=2587	Continue to update the SWMP webpage on the town web site. Track calls and problem remedies.
Revised					
2-8	Pet Waste Collection	Town Council	Create and enforce an ordinance. Track # of signs posted.	The town has an ordinance to fine people who do not clean up after their dog (Ordinance 6-801). The town continues to provide pet waste warning signs and "Mutt Mitt" dispensers at the three high use areas to encourage dog owners to clean up their pet's waste, said areas being Weston Park, Humphrey Field, and soccer fields at School House Rd.	Continued investigation into options. Implementation of any option(s) found to be feasible and affordable.
Revised					
Revised					

2a. Additions

2-6	Public Workshops	DPW	Develop and advertise public workshops to disseminate information to and receive input from the public.	The DPW Water & Sewer Division, together with the North & South Rivers Watershed Association and the Mass. Bays Program, have developed a GreenScapes free workshop which was held during May and June of 2005. It described ways to protect the environment by reducing the need for water and chemicals.	Public workshops will be planned and advertised with a frequency goal of at least one per year.

3. Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination

BMP ID #	BMP Description	Responsible Dept./Person Name	Measurable Goal(s)	Progress on Goal(s) – Permit Year 3 (Reliance on non-municipal partners indicated, if any)	Planned Activities – Permit Year 4
3-1	Inspect and sample all town discharges	DPW	Continue program to locate, sample and test.	All outfalls were inspected and dry weather flows sampled and tested in Year 1. In Year 3, when requested by the Health Dept. or when any potential surface water pollution was suspected, more samples were obtained and tested.	When identified, suspect discharges will be sampled and tested.
Revised					
3-2	System mapping development	DPW	Complete system map. Add soils and land use maps.	Townwide GIS drain system mapping that was completed in Year 2 is maintained and updated annually and issued as a printed 200-scale atlas set of drain system maps. During Year 3, as unmapped drain structures, including outfalls, manholes and catch basins, were identified, they were GPSed or otherwise located by DPW staff. Soil and land use exists as GIS layers.	As needed, additional GPS or other location of drainage structures will be performed by DPW staff. The GIS-based drain atlas will continue to be updated, printed, and distributed to interested departments annually.
Revised					
3-3	Illegal dumping enforcement/education	DPW	Flyers; track and prosecute illegal dumping.	Existing ordinances prohibit discharge of untreated waste, garbage, etc. Signs prohibiting dumping of waste have been posted at various locations throughout town. A closed container has been installed next to the DPW building so residents can dispose of their motor oil.	Will continue to create signs and post them in areas known for illegal dumping. Create and distribute flyers.
Revised					
3-4	Septic system controls	Health Dept.	Track #, location and inspection of septic systems.	In 2005, 51 septic system sites were switched to the town sewer system, leaving 677 septic systems currently still in use.	Create a Health Dept. regulation that identifies the requirements and conditions under which properties with septic systems will need to connect to the town sewer system. Continue converting properties on septic systems to sewer.
Revised					

3-5	Create illicit discharge ordinance	DPW	Eliminate illicit discharges to the drain system.	Existing ordinances prohibit discharge of untreated waste, garbage, etc. (Ordinances 6-901, 6-1214, 7-401, 11-101 and 12-103) Continued investigation into an ordinance. During 2005, the town created a Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG) Ordinance that requires food establishments to install and maintain systems to prevent these substances from entering the sewer system. This will reduce sewer overflows which usually end up in the drain system and/or receiving waters.	Continue working towards development of an outline and format for an illicit discharge ordinance/regulation.
Revised					

4. Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control

BMP ID #	BMP Description	Responsible Dept./Person Name	Measurable Goal(s)	Progress on Goal(s) – Permit Year 3 (Reliance on non-municipal partners indicated, if any)	Planned Activities – Permit Year 4
4-1	Ordinance review and update	Town Council & Planning Dept.	Develop erosion and sediment control ordinance/regulation.	Representatives from the Planning Dept. and DPW Engineering Div. met and discussed possibilities to structure and develop a new ordinance or adapt existing ordinances.	Planning and Engineering will meet with Conservation Administrator to continue working towards development and implementation of an erosion and sediment control ordinance/regulation.
Revised					
4-2	Construction inspection	DPW & Building Dept.	Track inadequate sites/plans and # of non-compliant permit.	The meeting described above included discussions regarding specific procedures for a stormwater related inspections and tracking system. Also, the Planning, Building, Public Works and Conservation Depts. met several times over the course of the year to share information on and track active construction projects.	Planning and Engineering will meet with Conservation Administrator and the Building Dept. to continue working on a reporting system in conjunction with development of an inspector training program with respect to SWMP requirements.
Revised		DPW, Conservation, Planning & Building Depts.			
Revised					
Revised					

4a. Additions

5. Post-Construction Stormwater Management in New Development and Redevelopment

BMP ID #	BMP Description	Responsible Dept./Person Name	Measurable Goal(s)	Progress on Goal(s) – Permit Year 3 (Reliance on non-municipal partners indicated, if any)	Planned Activities – Permit Year 4
5-1	Regulations for post-construction runoff	Town Council/ DPW	Develop public works construction rules and regs. including storm drain connection regulation.	Draft documents developed by consultant (BETA Group) and DPW staff. Continued review process.	Continue working towards completion and issuance of a DPW rules, regulations & construction specifications document.
Revised		DPW, Planning & Conservation Depts.			
5-2	BMP inspection and maintenance	DPW	Inspect structural BMPs once a year; document problems.	Drainage structures were inspected where deemed necessary. Developed a draft structural BMP tracking spreadsheet identifying the characteristics of the structures and inspection dates.	Continue identification of structural BMPs in the Drain GIS and tracking spreadsheet. Evaluate manpower requirements for inspection and maintenance. Inspect BMPs as available manpower allows.
Revised					
Revised					
Revised					
Revised					

5a. Additions

6. Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping in Municipal Operations

BMP ID #	BMP Description	Responsible Dept./Person Name	Measurable Goal(s)	Progress on Goal(s) – Permit Year 3 (Reliance on non-municipal partners indicated, if any)	Planned Activities – Permit Year 4
6-1	Catch basin cleaning program	DPW	Develop program, collect data, refine program.	Approximately half of the town-owned catch basins in town have been cleaned this year by the DPW.	Half of the town's catch basins will be cleaned. Prioritization will be given to specific "higher need" areas such as the Great Pond and Whitman's Pond watersheds. Continue Drain GIS data collection and work on refining catch basin cleaning program.
Revised					
6-2	Street sweeping	DPW	Sweep all roads annually, track quantity of sweepings.	All roads swept. Approximately 6000 cubic yards of sand was swept up.	Sweep all roads. Continue to track quantity of sweepings.
Revised					
6-3	Pipe inspections	DPW	Inspect drain lines on as-needed basis.	Numerous drain lines were inspected. At times, this is accomplished with a remote TV camera but its transporter is not designed for drain pipe use.	Continue inspections as needed. Purchase the required transporter to allow video camera access to all drain lines if funding can be obtained.
Revised					
6-4	Pipe cleaning	DPW	Clean and flush drain lines as needed.	50 drain lines were cleaned out by flushing with high pressure hose.	Continue cleaning pipes as needed.
Revised					
6-5	New pipe & structural installations	DPW	Replace drain pipes, catch basins and other drain structures as needed.	70 drain structures were replaced or repaired.	Drain structures will be replaced or repaired where required.
Revised					
Revised					

6a. Additions

6-6 Revised	Employee Training	DPW/ Planning	Develop and implement employee SWMP training program.	Continued to review sample training material obtained from the EPA, including recommended web sites.	Continue working on development of employee SWMP training program, including one for inspectors.
6-7 Revised	Spill Containment	DPW/Fire	Implement structural components and training to address spill containment at the DPW	Spill containment training was provided to DPW personnel by the Fire Dept. to ensure proper use of the kit that was installed last year next to the DPW refueling area.	If the need arises, additional spill containment equipment, training and procedures will be implemented at the DPW. Also planning to work with the Fire Dept. to identify and evaluate their spill containment procedures for spills at any location in town.

7. BMPs for Meeting Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Waste Load Allocations (WLA) *<<if applicable>>*

BMP ID #	BMP Description	Responsible Dept./Person Name	Measurable Goal(s)	Progress on Goal(s) – Permit Year 3 (Reliance on non-municipal partners indicated, if any)	Planned Activities – Permit Year 4
1-1	Classroom Education	School Dept.	High school Environmental Science class will include stormwater management issues.	Stormwater pollution awareness and management issues have been included in this class for the last 13 years.	This classroom training will continue. When finalized, the town's SWMP will be made available to the class.
Revised					
2-2	Pond & Stream Cleanup & Monitoring	DPW	Coordinate and track cleanup activities	Cleanup Days were held for Whitman's Pond and a 30 CY roll-off dumpster was provided, the Herring Run, Old Swamp River and the Fore River cleanup was also provided with a 30 CY dumpster. The Whitman's Pond Committee, the Herring Run Warden and the Fore River Watershed Association are non-municipal partners.	With assistance from the DPW, the Whitman's Pond Association, the Herring Run Warden and the Isaac Walton Fishing Association, will continue to have these activities. Additional pond and stream cleanups will also be arranged based on the development of the Adopt-A-Stream/Drain Program.
Revised					
2-3	Stencil Storm Drains	DPW	Stencil 300 or more catch basins each year.	More catch basins that are in the Whitman's Pond watershed were stenciled by the Whitman's Pond Association using stencils and paint purchased by the DPW.	Additional catch basins will be stenciled.
Revised					
3-1	Inspect and sample all town discharges	DPW	Continue program to locate, sample and test.	All outfalls were inspected and dry weather flows sampled and tested in Year 1. In Year 3, when requested by the Health Dept. or when any potential surface water pollution was suspected, more samples were obtained and tested.	When identified, suspect discharges will be sampled and tested.
Revised					

3-3	Illegal dumping enforcement/education	DPW	Flyers; track and prosecute illegal dumping.	Existing ordinances prohibit discharge of untreated waste, garbage, etc. Signs prohibiting dumping of waste have been posted at various locations throughout town. A closed container has been installed next to the DPW building so residents can dispose of their motor oil. Six "no dumping" signs have been installed this year.	Will continue to create signs and post them in areas known for illegal dumping. Create and distribute flyers.
Revised					

7a. Additions

7b. WLA Assessment

The MA DEP has not yet developed TMDLs for any Weymouth's water bodies that are identified as Category 5 (impaired/threatened, requiring a TMDL) in the MA Integrated List of Waters [Clean Water Act Sections 303(d) and 305(b)].

Continued cleaning of all town catch basins (approximately 4,000) every other year provides a tremendous benefit by removing waste and pollutants from the stormwater that outfalls into water resources. Sweeping all town streets likewise prevents the sand, dirt and road debris that carries pollutants from entering the drain system and eventually polluting the environment.

The Town is reviewing the Whitman's Pond watershed master plan and the SWMP, both developed by BETA, for potential final revision and acceptance. Although numerous BMPs are currently in use and more will be implemented per the recommendations in the BETA reports, a detailed Waste Load Allocation Assessment has not yet been done. The Town will work towards performing this assessment in time to be included in the 2007 annual report.

Part IV. Summary of Information Collected and Analyzed

The GIS Drain atlas is used by various departments and we are constantly updating the data. Work by DPW staff will continue to enhance the accuracy and completeness of this data. Identification and database development for all town structural BMPs is underway and will be worked on until complete, at which time it will be maintained and updated and new structural BMPs are installed.

The significant quantities of hazardous waste and recycled materials identified in Section III.1-4 confirms that the town is providing an important service to residents who are very willing to properly dispose of these materials when a means to do so is available. The impact on storm water quality and the environment in general from these programs, as well as the various water body adoptions, clean-up days, Mutt Mitt dispensers, and conversions from septic system to sewer, is a difficult to quantify, but undeniable, benefit.

Part V. Program Outputs & Accomplishments (OPTIONAL)

Programmatic

Stormwater management position created/staffed	(y/n)	
Annual program budget/expenditures	($)	

Education, Involvement, and Training

Estimated number of residents reached by education program(s)	(# or %)	
Stormwater management committee established	(y/n)	
Stream teams established or supported	(# or y/n)	
Shoreline clean-up participation or quantity of shoreline miles cleaned	(y/n or mi.)	
Household Hazardous Waste Collection Days		
▪ days sponsored	(#)	
▪ community participation	(%)	
▪ material collected	(tons or gal)	
School curricula implemented	(y/n)	

Legal/Regulatory

	In Place Prior to Phase II	Under Review	Drafted	Adopted
Regulatory Mechanism Status (indicate with "**X**")				
▪ Illicit Discharge Detection & Elimination				
▪ Erosion & Sediment Control				
▪ Post-Development Stormwater Management				
Accompanying Regulation Status (indicate with "**X**")				
▪ Illicit Discharge Detection & Elimination				
▪ Erosion & Sediment Control				
▪ Post-Development Stormwater Management				

Mapping and Illicit Discharges

Outfall mapping complete	(%)	
Estimated or actual number of outfalls	(#)	
System-Wide mapping complete	(%)	
Mapping method(s)		
▪ Paper/Mylar	(%)	
▪ CADD	(%)	
▪ GIS	(%)	
Outfalls inspected/screened	(# or %)	
Illicit discharges identified	(#)	
Illicit connections removed	(#) (est. gpd)	
% of population on sewer	(%)	
% of population on septic systems	(%)	

Construction

Number of construction starts (>1-acre)	(#)	
Estimated percentage of construction starts adequately regulated for erosion and sediment control	(%)	
Site inspections completed	(# or %)	
Tickets/Stop work orders issued	(# or %)	
Fines collected	(# and $)	
Complaints/concerns received from public	(#)	

Post-Development Stormwater Management

Estimated percentage of development/redevelopment projects adequately regulated for post-construction stormwater control	(%)	
Site inspections completed	(# or %)	
Estimated volume of stormwater recharged	(gpy)	

Operations and Maintenance

Average frequency of catch basin cleaning (non-commercial/non-arterial streets)	(times/yr)	
Average frequency of catch basin cleaning (commercial/arterial or other critical streets)	(times/yr)	
Total number of structures cleaned	(#)	
Storm drain cleaned	(LF or mi.)	
Qty. of screenings/debris removed from storm sewer infrastructure	(lbs. or tons)	
Disposal or use of sweepings (landfill, POTW, compost, recycle for sand, beneficial use, etc.)		
Cost of screenings disposal	($)	

Average frequency of street sweeping (non-commercial/non-arterial streets)	(times/yr)	
Average frequency of street sweeping (commercial/arterial or other critical streets)	(times/yr)	
Qty. of sand/debris collected by sweeping	(lbs. or tons)	
Disposal of sweepings (landfill, POTW, compost, beneficial use, etc.)	(location)	
Cost of sweepings disposal	($)	
Vacuum street sweepers purchased/leased	(#)	
Vacuum street sweepers specified in contracts	(y/n)	

Reduction in application on public land of: ("N/A" = never used; "100%" = elimination)		
▪ Fertilizers	(lbs. or %)	
▪ Herbicides	(lbs. or %)	
▪ Pesticides	(lbs. or %)	

Anti-/De-Icing products and ratios	% NaCl % $CaCl_2$ % $MgCl_2$ % CMA % Kac % KCl % Sand	
Pre-wetting techniques utilized	(y/n)	
Manual control spreaders used	(y/n)	
Automatic or Zero-velocity spreaders used	(y/n)	
Estimated net reduction in typical year salt application	(lbs. or %)	
Salt pile(s) covered in storage shed(s)	(y/n)	
Storage shed(s) in design or under construction	(y/n)	

Municipality/Organization:	Town of Weymouth
EPA NPDES Permit Number:	MA041070
MaDEP Transmittal Number:	**W-035571**
Annual Report Number & Reporting Period:	**No. 2: March 05 - March 06**

NPDES PII Small MS4 General Permit Annual Report

ATTACHMENTS

1. NSRWA email describing Greenscapes Program for 2006, (4 pages).
2. Greenscapes Reference Guide (cover sheet, 2 pages).
3. Greenscapes flyers; used as inserts in water and sewer bills (2 pages).
4. Greenscapes poster board in DPW Water Office (1 page).
5. Public notices/articles: Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day, CoastSweep 2004, town-wide waterfront and Whitman's Pond cleanups (14 pages).

Greenscapes 2006
Proposed Scope

The North and South Rivers Watershed Association anticipates a budget for the 2006 program that will allow us to provide you with the following goods and services. The number of participating communities and the corresponding budget will determine the quantity of each deliverable.

1. Citizen Workshop Series

In 2006, we will again offer a regional workshop series that will be held at the South Shore Vocational Tech High School. Last year nearly 200 residents representing every participating community attended one or more of our workshops, and provided very positive feedback. The 2006 workshop series may include 2-hour presentations on some or all of the following topics: (1) Lawn maintenance (2) Lawn alternatives, (3) Irrigation Systems, (4) Raingardens, (5) Recycling and Composting. We will partner with organizations such as the MA DEP, UMass Cooperative Extension, Ecological Landscaping Association and the Northeast Organic Farmers Association to host experts in these fields. Door prizes (such as drought-tolerant plants, soil sampling kits, organic fertilizer, etc.) will be given to participants as an incentive to complete the feedback surveys. The number of workshops offered in the series will depend upon the number of towns participating in the Greenscapes program and the corresponding budget.

2. Landscape Professionals Workshops

In 2006, we will again offer a training workshop for landscape professionals in partnership with credible organizations in the field. Last year, over 50 landscape professionals attended our training workshops and the evaluations were all very positive. This year's half-day training workshop will be advertised to landscape professionals in the region through direct mailings and inclusion in industry newsletters. We are also working with the Northeast Organic Farmers Association to potentially offer an intensive Lawn and Turf Care course for landscaping professionals this summer. The programs will be advertised through direct invitations to local landscapers and Garden Clubs, press releases, and email listserves.

3. Direct mailing of an improved "Greenscapes Guidebook"

We will update and revise the 2005 Guidebook to include peer review comments and additional topics such as riparian buffers, creating rain gardens, wildlife habitat, and landscape design templates from the Town of Concord's water conservation program. Like the first edition, the Guidebook will include the regional workshop schedule for citizens, discounts for Greenscapes goods and services (sprinkler timers, drought-tolerant plants, etc), a list of communities that offer low-cost rainbarrels and compost bins through the MA DEP Recycling Program, and credit to the program sponsors (each of the supporting communities and grant funding obtained). The Guidebooks will be printed in color on newsprint, and directly mailed to all single-family homes in the participating communities. A public mailing list for the single-family homes in your community will be rented from a mailing house.

4. Outreach to Local Nurseries, Garden Clubs, and Watershed Associations

To help promote the program to a larger market, we will send a Greenscapes marketing package to the largest garden centers and nurseries in the region. These packages will include a full color Greenscapes poster with the workshop schedule, 100 Greenscapes Guides, and 100 brochures. We will write a letter asking the nurseries to help promote the Greenscapes program to their customers, and encourage their employees and/or contractors to attend our professional workshops.

5. Tabletop Displays
We will provide each community with a color tabletop display board (updated from 2005) that advertises the different components of the program. The tabletop board is suitable for display at Town Hall, library, conferences, workshops, etc. and will be delivered to you in the early spring.

6. Distribution of Greenscapes Videos
We will provide each community's public library copies of the 5-part video collection from the 2005 workshop series, and then advertise it's availability through press releases and the 2006 Guidebook. We will also provide local cable access TV stations with a copy of the 30-minute infomercial video (produced in 2004) and request airtime in the spring and summer. For newly participating communities, we will also provide their public library with a copy of the 30-minute video, which is a compilation of previous workshops and landscape shots, provides an overview of the program, and directs people to the website for more information (the libraries of formerly participating towns already have been sent a copy). Communities wishing to receive additional copies of the videos may purchase as many as they wish for $5 a copy, to cover reproduction costs.

7. Color Posters
NSRWA will design and print a full-color, 11"x17"Greenscapes poster to advertise the program website and citizen workshop series. Town staff may post these in highly visible public locations such as the Town Hall, post office, library, etc. Each town will be given five copies in the early spring, and we will also send copies to the local nurseries.

8. Update and Improve Greenscapes Website (www.greenscapes.org)
We will update our Greenscapes website to reflect the 2006 program offerings, as well as links to other relevant webpages. Please let us know if you have any ideas for additional information that would be useful on the website.

9. Email Newsletters (6 monthly issues)
We will write six issues of the Greenscapes email newsletter for the Greenscapes listserve. The e-newsletter will have timely tips and information regarding topics such as what the weather is doing lately and how it affects your landscape, water restrictions in effect, what you need to do to keep your lawn healthy, and beautiful, low maintenance, drought-tolerant plants that grow well in southeastern Massachusetts. This email newsletter is free to the public, and will be advertised in the Greenscapes workshops, brochures, and Guidebook. Interested citizens can easily subscribe themselves by visiting the Greenscapes website.

10. Media Kits
We will write and distribute multiple press releases and packages of all Greenscapes materials to various media outlets to help advertise all components of the program, including workshops, website, helpful hints, and Greenscapes goods and services (sprinkler timers, rain barrels, compost bins, videos, etc). Media kits will be sent to each community's local paper, the regional newspapers (Globe South, Patriot Ledger), local radio stations, and bulletin board listings on local cable television stations. We will also write Greenscapes articles for our organization's newsletter and offer guest articles for other organization's newsletters.

11. Lawn Sign Campaign
Last year we produced weather-resistant lawn signs that property owners can display in their landscapes to advertise that they are implementing Greenscapes principles. This year, we will continue to give away these signs in exchange for a public commitment to implement Greenscapes principles (names to be posted on website). These signs are available to community groups such as Adopt-an-Island committees or Garden Clubs at no cost.

12. Radio Station Commercials
NSRWA will write, produce, and air short Greenscapes commercials to be aired on the South Shore radio station WATD. The ads will be frequently aired in early April, just prior to the mailing of the Guidebook to encourage listeners to watch their mailbox for their free Guidebook.

13. Rainbarrel Sales
We will again work with New England Rainbarrel Company to offer discounted rainbarrels to citizens in participating communities. The sale will be hosted at NSRWA headquarters and will be advertised in the Guidebook and the media information kits. Other than labor, the rainbarrel sale will not cost anything to this year's Greenscapes program but will potentially generate a small amount of revenue per barrel sold.

14. Sprinkler Timer Sales
Programmable sprinkler timers make it easy for homeowners to "Water their Lawn at Dawn". We have approximately 80 timers remaining from 2005, which we purchased at wholesale ($20 each) using 2005 funds. We will again sell these timers at cost and apply the funds to the program budget. The sprinkler timers will be advertised in the Guidebook, media kits, and workshops.

15. Coupons for Greenscapes Goods and Services
We will collaborate with local nurseries and contractors to provide discounts for Greenscapes goods and services, such as drought-tolerant grass seed and plants, organic pesticides, and these discounts will be advertised to the public through the Greenscapes Reference Guide, media kits, workshops, and website.

16. Irrigation System Audits (*NEW*)
The watering efficiency of automatic irrigation systems can be substantially improved by periodic maintenance and upgrades. These improvements are best identified by a certified irrigation specialist through an irrigation system audit. In 2006, we will provide a limited number of free irrigation system audits to top water users in the region. The audits will be performed by a subcontracted professional irrigation auditor. This will be modeled after the successful programs implemented by the Towns of Concord and Acton last year. As these audits cost approximately $150.00 each, we will require a pledge to be signed by participating homeowners that commits to implementing some/all of the auditor's recommendations. Participants will be solicited by an invitation sent directly to the top 50 summertime water users (single family homes) in each community. **If you are able to share this mailing list with us, we will process the mailing for your community; otherwise we will provide you with stamped invitations to be addressed and mailed by your staff.** The invitations will be sent to all communities at the same time (in late March) and the free audits will be available to any invitee on a first-come, first-served basis. Free audits not claimed by April 15 will be offered to any irrigation system user on a municipal water system in a Greenscapes community, and will be advertised through all Greenscapes venues (Guidebook, press kits, workshops, etc). After all free audits are claimed, citizens will be offered a discount for an audit that they pay for themselves. The number of free audits offered will be contingent on the number of participating communities in the Greenscapes program and the corresponding budget. At a minimum, one free audit per community will be available; in other words, if 15 entities join the 2006

Greenscapes program, we will offer at least 15 free water audits. This will be a pilot project that will hopefully be expanded next year if we are able to find grant funds to subsidize the program.

17. Landscape Contest and Tour (*NEW*)
To help encourage implementation of Greenscapes principles and promote the program to the public, we will conduct a Greenscape Landscape Contest and Tour. Homeowners who implement some Greenscapes principles can enter by submitting three pictures of their landscape and a written narrative of the types of plants and maintenance strategies that are used on their property. Prizes (incentives) will include gift certificates for Greenscapes goods and plants at partnering nurseries. Judges will be volunteers from our municipal partners and other organizational partners (ELA, NOFA, UMass Cooperative Extension, etc). Winning landscapes will be highlighted on NSRWA's 2006 House and Landscape Tour, the Greenscapes email newsletter, press releases to local media and other venues.

18. Utility Bill Inserts (*OPTIONAL*)
This year, the brochures are only available at an ***additional cost*** because many of our participating communities are unable to use them in their utility bills. Communities may order as many as they wish at an additional cost of $0.10 each (please indicate on your 2006 contract form). Brochures will be delivered by March 1. We will redo last year's brochure to be more specific to irrigation and it will have details about the water conservation items available through the Greenscapes program (sprinkler timers, irrigation system audits and rainbarrels). Like the 2005 brochure, it will be a four panel, full color brochure on 70# recycled paper that measures 3.75" x 8.5" when folded.

19. Model Greenscapes Bylaw (*NEW* -- OPTIONAL PARTICIPATION)
Last summer, the NSRWA was awarded a $15,000 grant from the Massachusetts Environmental Trust to develop a model Greenscapes bylaw. The model bylaw will have a "laundry list" of regulations that communities can choose from, covering landscape-related aspects such as irrigation system permitting/use, maximum lawn size, minimum topsoil depth, maximum impervious coverage of lots, and prohibited invasive plantings. Starting next summer, this bylaw will be drafted by a working group that will meet periodically and communicate via email over the course of a year. We invite you and/or another representative from your community to participate in this working group so that your ideas and concerns are represented. We will contact you in the near future with more information about this project and how you can participate in the model bylaw working group.

20. Raingarden Demonstration Site (*NEW* -- OPTIONAL PARTICIPATION)
Last summer, we were awarded a grant from the Environmental Protection Agency (104b3 program) to create raingarden demonstration sites in South Shore communities. Each Greenscapes community is eligible to receive $2000 in materials to build a raingarden. If you would like a raingarden demonstration in your community, we will need your help to identify a potential site as well as a school group, scout troop, or other entity that will partner with us and volunteer their labor for construction and maintenance. We will develop other activities for young people who are participating in this project, such as a poster contest and take-home outdoor water audit to complete with their parents. This is a 2-year project that we will be starting this spring, and we will keep you informed as details develop.

2006 Greenscapes Reference Guide

April 22, 2006 Volume 2, Issue 1

Learn how to have a beautiful landscape that protects our water.

See inside for:

Mowing Tips 4
Better Grass Seed 4
Pesticide Alternatives 5
Fertilizing Alternatives 6
Composting Tips 7
Watering Tips 8
Designing Planting Beds 11
Low Maintenance Plants 12
Stormwater Tips 15
Rain Gardens 16
Lawn Care Calendar 18
Contest and Tour 18
Free Workshop Schedule 20

www.Greenscapes.org

Saving water and money doesn't mean your landscape has to suffer.

See inside for tips and special offers to keep your landscape and wallet green!

The Greenscapes Reference Guide is published once a year by the North and South Rivers Watershed Association on behalf of the Greenscapes Program partners and sponsors.

NSRWA

NSRWA
P.O. Box 43
Norwell, MA 02061

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Brockton, MA
Permit No. 1000

Save over $200 on Greenscapes goods and services!

FREE WORKSHOPS
Thursdays in May
7:00-9:00 pm
See back for details

Saving water and money doesn't mean your landscape has to suffer.

greenscapes

These special offers make it easy to keep your landscape and wallet green!

The 2006 Greenscapes program is a multi-partner outreach effort sponsored by the North and South Rivers Watershed Association, the Massachusetts Bays Program, Aquarion Water Co. (Hingham, Hull), the Pinehills LLC and the Towns of Cohasset, Hanover, Kingston, Marshfield, Norwell, Pembroke, Plymouth, Scituate, and Weymouth. The 2006 Greenscapes program is also financed in part by grants from the Massachusetts Environmental Trust, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the MA Department of Environmental Protection.

NSRWA

MASSACHUSETTS BAYS PROGRAM

Views expressed do not necessarily reflect those of the partners or sponsors listed above, nor does the mention of any trade names or commercial products constitute endorsement or recommendation for use.

printed on recycled paper

Save water and money with these special offers.

Rainbarrels (SAVE $16!) Rainbarrels collect clean rainwater from your roof so you can easily reuse it to water your landscape! Pre-order yours for just $69 (regular retail $85) by calling New England Rainbarrel at 978-977-3155. Pick up your rainbarrel on Saturday June 3rd at 214 South St., Norwell.

Sprinkler Timers (SAVE $22!) Watering your lawn at dawn is the best time for the health of your landscape and to conserve water.* A programmable sprinkler timer makes it simple. Get an Orbit™ digital timer for just $20 (model 62001, retail $42) by contacting us at 781-659-8168 or greenscapes@nsrwa.org.

Irrigation System Checks (SAVE $20!) Unmaintained irrigation systems can waste more than 12 gallons a minute!* A certified irrigation specialist can analyze your system's problems and find ways to save water, money, and headaches. Call Smart Watering Solutions at 617-553-0386 and save $20 on a system check.

SmartStorm™ (SAVE $100!) This cistern captures up to 2400 gallons of rainwater from your roof and stores it for non-potable uses like irrigation and car washing, then recharges (i.e., puts in the ground) any excess. Call the Charles River Watershed Association at 781-788-0007 (x302) or visit www.crwa.org and save $100 on a SmartStorm™.

*** People are more important than lawns – remember to always abide by your town's watering restrictions. Not sure if a ban is in effect? Call your Town Hall and find out.**

Visit www.Greenscapes.org or call 781.659.8168 for more information!

FREE WORKSHOP SERIES!
Join us Thursday evenings this May (7-9 pm) to learn great ideas from landscaping experts.

May 4 — Recycling Rainwater and Creating Raingardens
May 11 — Easy Composting for Healthy Landscapes
May 18 — Sustainable Plants for Sustainable Landscapes
May 25 — Take Control of Your Irrigation System

Pre-register at www.Greenscapes.org or call 781-659-8168. Workshops will be at the South Shore Regional Vocactional Technical School, 476 Webster Street (Rte. 123) in Hanover, MA.

FREE Reference Guide.
Watch your mailbox in mid-April for your 20-page Greenscapes Reference Guide, full of tips and hints for a beautiful landscape that protects our water. Extra copies are at your Town Hall or public library.

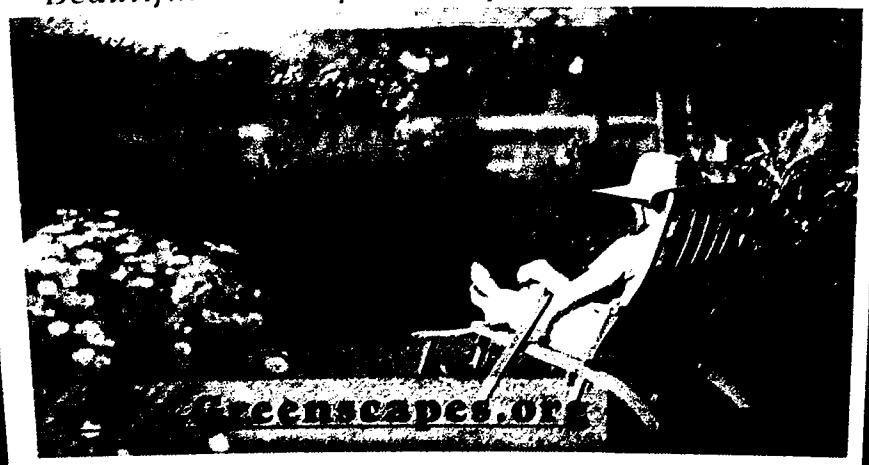
FREE E-Newsletter.
Get monthly emails (April-October) with timely landscaping tips and information about the weather, watering restrictions, and upcoming Greenscapes opportunities.
To subscribe, send a blank email to Greenscapes-subscribe@lists.nsrwa.org.

FREE Lawn Sign.
Are you already a Greenscaper or are you willing to try at least five Greenscapes tips? Let others know you are doing your part to help protect our water by displaying a Greenscapes sign on your lawn.

2006 Contest and Tour.
Show the South Shore your fabulous Greenscape – you could win fame and fortune! Winning entries will receive gift certificates and the opportunity to be showcased on a Home and Garden tour in September.

Greenscapes

Beautiful landscapes that protect our water.



DISCOUNTED COMPOST BINS

Composting is a great way to recycle your yard and kitchen waste and keep your soil healthy. These South Shore towns sell discounted compost bins (about $25), thanks to a grant from the MA Dept. of Environmental Protection.

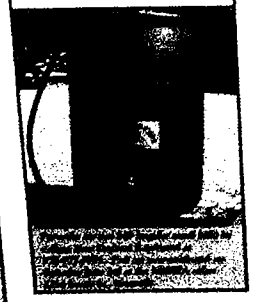
FREE LAWN SIGN

FREE 2006 WORKSHOPS

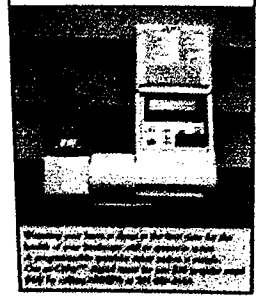
May 4	Creating Raingardens
May 11	Easy Composting
May 18	Sustainable Plants
May 25	Irrigation Systems

All workshops will be held from 7-9 p.m. at the Hingham Municipal Technical High School, 17 Middle St., Hingham. [illegible]

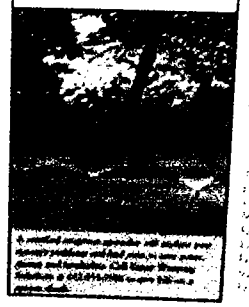
RAINBARRELS SAVE $16!



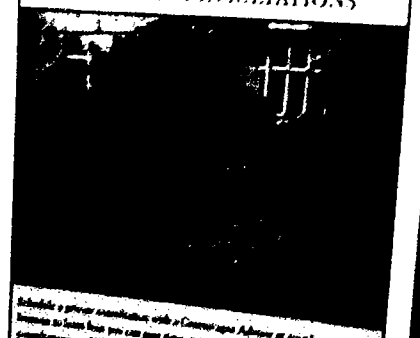
SPRINKLER TIMERS SAVE $22!



IRRIGATION SYSTEM CHECKS SAVE $20!

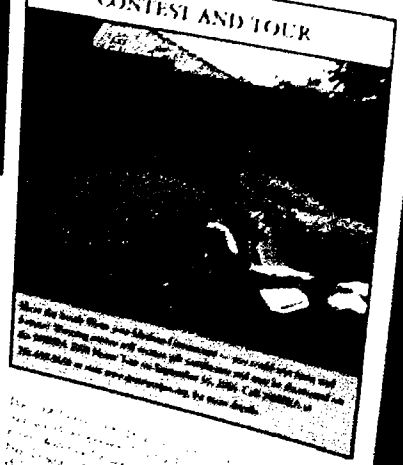


PRIVATE CONSULTATIONS



Schedule a private consultation with a Greenscapes Advisor at your home or business to learn how you can save time, money and water. Annual Water Conservation per WS, approved follow-up for maximum satisfaction per WS. Call Barbara Hughes at 508-732-9662 (extension 3).

CONTEST AND TOUR



Share the beauty, share your [illegible] Greenscapes [illegible] the [illegible] 2006 Water Tour [illegible] Call [illegible] or visit greenscapes.org for more details.

FREE EMAIL NEWSLETTER. [illegible] greenscapes@[illegible].org

EPA

calls, letters, and emails received by his office, Sen. Robert L. Hedlund has announced a forum on stem cell research for the South Shore communities to discuss the consequences of the legislation.

Stem cell research is one of the most complex and technically challenging pieces of legislation in recent years that has ever been debated in Massachusetts. The details of the science involved and questions of the ethical nature of stem cell research have been at the heart of the contention and confusion of this practice.

In an effort to inform and educate the community on the result that the stem cell research legislation has in the Massachusetts Legislature. Tarr's knowledge and experience assisted many in the Senate debates by answering questions on stem cell research, its proposed benefits, and the procedure involved.

"I welcome and encourage community leaders, constituents, friends, and media to take advantage of this seminar and learn more about this historic and critical issue facing the Commonwealth," Hedlund said.

The seminar will be held Tuesday, May 3 at 7:30 p.m. in the Hingham Town Hall auditorium, 210 Central St., Hingham. Call Hedlund's office at 617-722-1646 with questions.

$8.99
729 Granite St. • Granite Plaza • Braintree • 781-848-4334
616 Middle St. • Shaw's Plaza • East Weymouth

U Dirty Dog
Mobile Pet Salon
Lauren Sweeney | Owner
Certified and Insured
GRAND OPENING
$10 OFF GROOMING
WITH THIS AD • FIRST TIME CUSTOMERS ONLY
EXP. 6/30/05
Services:
Full Brushout • Bathing
Nails • Ears • Teeth
De-Skunking & Much More
Call (781) 630-0278

Mayor announces open seats on town committees

FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

MIKE VERSECKES

Mayor David Madden is seeking to fill vacancies on eight different committees.

The Cultural Council has three open seats; the youth coalition has two positions open; and there is one open seat on each of the following: the board of elder services, the memorial committee, the local emergency planning committee, the veteran's council, the recreation committee, and the scholarship committee.

Anyone interested should send a letter of interest to the mayor's office.

Yard waste collection

Yard waste will be collected this week on the regularly scheduled rubbish day and will continue on a biweekly basis until October.

Arbor Day Friday

Mayor David Madden will be celebrating Arbor Day by planting a tree at the Academy Avenue Primary School on Friday, April 29 at 11 a.m. Seedlings will also be distributed to students for planting.

Hazardous Waste Day

On Saturday, April 9, the Household Hazardous Waste Day brought in a number of hazardous items normally unfit for disposal.

In total, the town collected 100 propane tanks, 200 tires, 200 televisions, 550 gallons of waste oil, 50 car batteries, 13 air conditioners, and over 1,700 gallons of surplus paint.

Senator Hedlund cosponsors bill to ban gift card fees

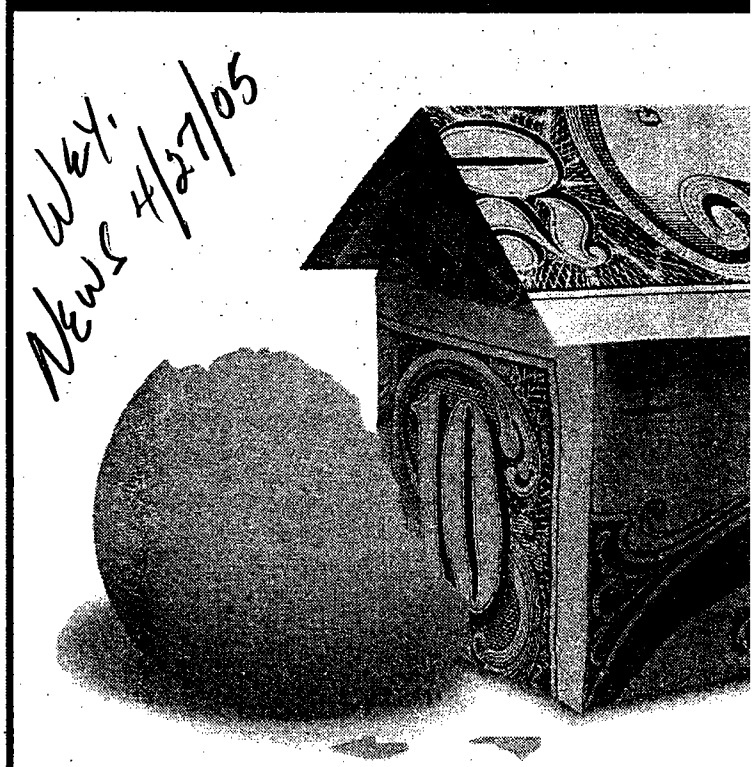
Senator Robert L. Hedlund, in an effort to address the inappropriate practice of affixing extensive fees on gift cards and gift certificates, is cosponsoring Senate Bill 222 which prohibits excessive fees on gift certificates and gift cards. Senator Hedlund is joined by 83 legislators in cosponsoring this important bill.

Senate Bill 222 closes a loop hole that permitted a vendor to apply dormancy and latency fees on gift cards at the time of redemption. For example, currently, a merchant is able to

consumers from unwittingly purchasing a gift card that will encounter several roadblocks to achieving full worth. This is a good bill because it prevents shady dealings by gift card vendors."

Senate Bill 222 also groups certain similar gift certificates and gift cards under homogenous legislation which will not allow for future, additional creative fees to be implemented. Moreover, the bill provides stipulations on expiration dates which allows for a greater longevity of a gift card

an egg you won't ha
this sp



Introducin
nest-egg hc
Payment Options

E YEARS
YOUR FACE
HOURS.

re gave you beautiful skin, don't
e take it away. With a vegetable
microdermabrasion, or an age
nent, you'll rediscover a youthful
ess and clarity. And undo the
winter has wrought. For timeless
le an appointment... this minute.

r visit www.elizabethgrady.com
rvices, products & gift certificates.

Second annual townwide cleanup set for May 21

FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

MIKE VERSECKES

The second annual townwide cleanup has been scheduled for Saturday, May 21.

"We've worked with civic and neighborhood associations, and it's been very successful," Mayor David Madden said. "Also, it's been a tremendous benefit to the town's appearance."

Projects must be registered with the mayor's office, which can be reached by calling 781-340-5012.

Rubbish from cleanup projects should be separated into yard waste, which can be put into biodegradable bags; litter, into separate rubbish bags; and metal objects, which should be piled separately.

Vietnam memorial service on May 22

A memorial service will be held on Sunday, May 22 at 11 a.m. at the Vietnam Memorial on Route 3A and Neck Street.

The ceremony will honor veterans who fought in Vietnam and will also commemorate the 30th anniversary of the fall of Saigon.

Members of the veterans' council will go out to the harbor and place a wreath in the water in honor of the servicemen and women who died at sea. Simultaneously, a color guard will fire a gun salute on Great Hill.

Memorial Day parade May 30

The Weymouth Veterans' Council will be holding its annual Memorial Day parade on Monday, May 30 at 9:15 a.m.

The group will congregate at the Korean War Memorial in Jackson Square, and the parade is expected to begin around 10 a.m.

The parade will travel from Jackson Square, up Broad Street, turn right onto Middle Street, and finish at the amphitheater next to Weymouth Town Hall.

Lane Beach bathhouse to be renovated

The bathhouse at Lane Beach will be renovated for handicapped accessibility. Renovations are expected to begin this month.

The contract has been awarded to R. Mullen and Associates, the lowest bidder for the project. Funding for the entire project will come from the state's Community Development Block Grant program.

Lavatories for bathrooms and work space for lifeguards will be redone on the inside

Outside, the sea wall next to a set of stairs will be opened, and a concrete walkway with railings will be put in for access to the bathhouse.

July 4 fundraisers set

The Fourth of July Celebration Committee is holding its annual can and bottle drive on Saturday, June 18 from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Cans and bottles can be dropped off at the Department of Public Works building on 120 Winter St. and will only be accepted on the day of the fundraiser.

To make arrangements for a pick up, call the Fourth of July hotline in advance at 781-340-2133.

The Fourth of July Committee is also hosting a bus trip to Mohegan Sun on Saturday, June 25.

The trip costs $40 and includes a buffet breakfast at the Venetian Restaurant from 7:30 to 8:45 a.m.

After the breakfast, those going to Mohegan Sun will drive to the DPW building on 120 Winter St. to meet the bus at 9 a.m.

The bus will leave Mohegan Sun at 4 p.m.

For more information, contact Ron Rizzo at 781-337-8448.

School lunch prices could go up 25 cents next year

By Michael Verseckes
MVERSECK@CNC.COM

The international forces affecting the world's economy, which can already be seen at the gas pump, might also be felt in the lunch line starting in the next school year.

"The proposed increases in our lunch prices will put us in line with many of the surrounding school districts."

David Zeoli, food services director

As Zeoli pointed out, some of the equipment in the primary schools is in need of replacement or repair.

While a 30-year-old dishwasher may cost $3,000 to repair, a new one could cost as much as $40,000.

Calling Wessagusset Families

Saturday, May 21st
9 - Noon

As part of the

2nd Annual Townwide Cleanup

Please join us at the school for a *Pre*-Grandparents Day/Patriotic Ceremony cleanup.

Targeted areas will be the back walkway
and the rear parking-lot walkway.

Bringing gloves, rakes, brooms or
shovels would be helpful.

Any questions contact:
Jeanette Begley @ 781 340-6548 or
Kathleen Curran @ 781 335-7153

Thank You in advance for your help!

LOAM PILES AND BEACH

in 1973.
ne-year
. John's
ıld tell the
'0's, while
y; he made
ınti family
n duty
santly sur-
ue over the
the room in
father. It
ne during
d Nettie had
ɔ his parent's
eing the
ng; he
m the first
illage.
s, at the end
ill have
much as John
e had to begin

he train,
ne runways,
ıd infrastruc-
th, raised a
ed to build a
alian-
el at home
ost importantly,
opportunity to
by encouraging
port for anyone
own a business.
Colasanti could
n, when he
mouth at 17
$14 in his pock-
a part of a much
nd that his des-
ild and make

Both men died from multiple trauma to the head, including sharp and blunt injuries and multiple fractures, according to the Plymouth County District Attorney's office. As of Tuesday, June 28, there were no new developments.

Within Bare Cove Park, two separate parcels of land are owned by the Massachusetts Highway Department and the state Division of Fisheries and Wildlife. The bodies of Lyon and Chrapan were

the town of Hingham.

With the news that one of the buildings will be demolished, Hingham town officials are hoping this will be the first of many, turning the land over to the town.

"I think the problem was when both parcels were acquired by MassHighway and Fisheries and Wildlife, they never did anything with them," said Hingham Town Administrator Charles Cristello. "It's good to hear they're finally

take a proactive role to restore it to the condition of the adjacent Bare Cove Park.

"If the land became town land, the town would move to restore and protect the area effectively. Then it could be used and maintained," Mills said.

Hedlund said the money to take down the first building was the beginning of a four-step process.

Beginning with the MassHighway land, the buildings

which ends next J

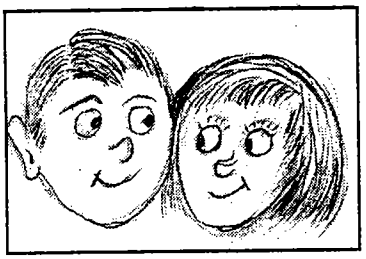
Mom and Pop Whitman

Mom: Why, Pop, you look all excited - here have a seat and relax. My heavens, what's the problem?

Pop: Oh, I'll calm down in a minute. I was with Ebb this morning and he's all worked up because he's excited about the Whitman's Pond Family Fishin' Festival. He got out his tackle box and kept trying different lures, he had three fishing rods that he kept alternating, and drove me crazy practicing his casting. He insisted that he wanted to be ready so he could take Ann and Johnny Johnson to the festival and make them winners.

Mom: They are wonderful youngsters, and Ebb is very fond of them, but I hope he doesn't put too much pressure on them to win. Did he finally calm down just a bit?

Pop: Well, I finally convinced him to bake an apple pie. I showed him a recipe I had cut out of a



magazine, and he became motionless for a minute then he sort of thought out loud about having some apples that were just starting to go downhill and then stated that it was about time he tackled a pie. Cakes, cookies, doughnuts he could handle with ease. He liked the idea of the challenge pies would afford him.

Mom: More psychology? I'm sure you had no ulterior motive especially since you have a great fondness for apple pie.

Pop: I have to plead guilty there, but I was really desperate. You've never seen him when he gets a sort of glow in his eyes, and they signal complete loss of control on his part. Anyhow, he calmed down and he'll be busy for the next hour or two.

Mom: Well, you just rest easy while I fix you a soothing cup of Earl Grey, and then you can tell me about the festival.

Pop: I bumped into Marie Feely on my way to Ebb's and she gave me a flyer about the festival. She was on her way to Carolyn Price's house to help Carolyn and Lorraine make arrangements for the festival. You know a great deal of work goes into the planning for the greatest event that is offered in the town - free of charge. Youngsters have a chance to fish and be with their parents. It's just a great event for the whole family.

Mom: You don't have to convince me. Last year, Avis Sachetti estimated about 500 people attended. You say the date is Saturday, July 16 at 10 a.m. at the

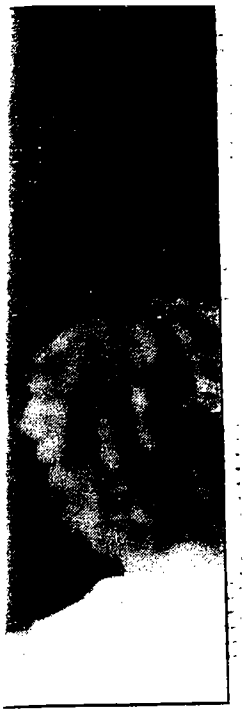
SEE MOM & POP, PAGE 13

WEY. NEWS 6/29/05

me on
unday

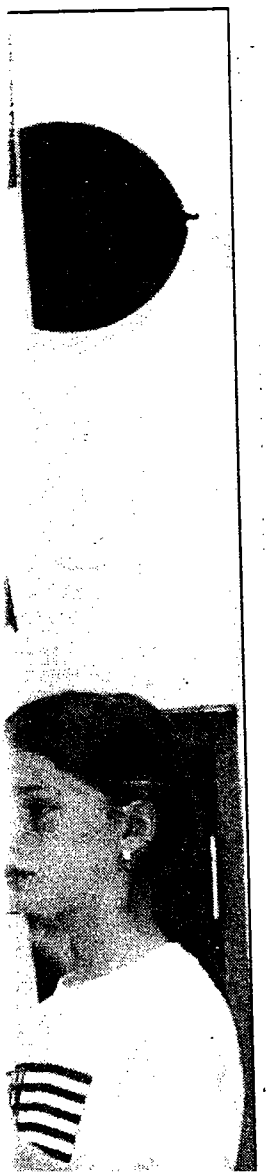
rs contained the
e second floor but
or sustained water

as hurt. Damage is
out $20,000.
rs endured temper-
and 90 degrees and
dity while fighting



s W. Hamilton Primary

ng America's free-



FROM MOM & POP, PAGE 11

new park on Middle Street - rain or shine?

Pop: Yes, registration booths will be set up - people must register in order to get the use of a fishing rod supplied by Massachusetts Fisheries and Wildlife Angler Education Program. The Whitman's Pond Association supplies the worms free, and canoes are available from the Weymouth Recreation Department. Uncle Bob's Self Storage has made a donation, and Johnnie's Foodmaster donates the burgers and dogs each year that people can enjoy for a small donation.

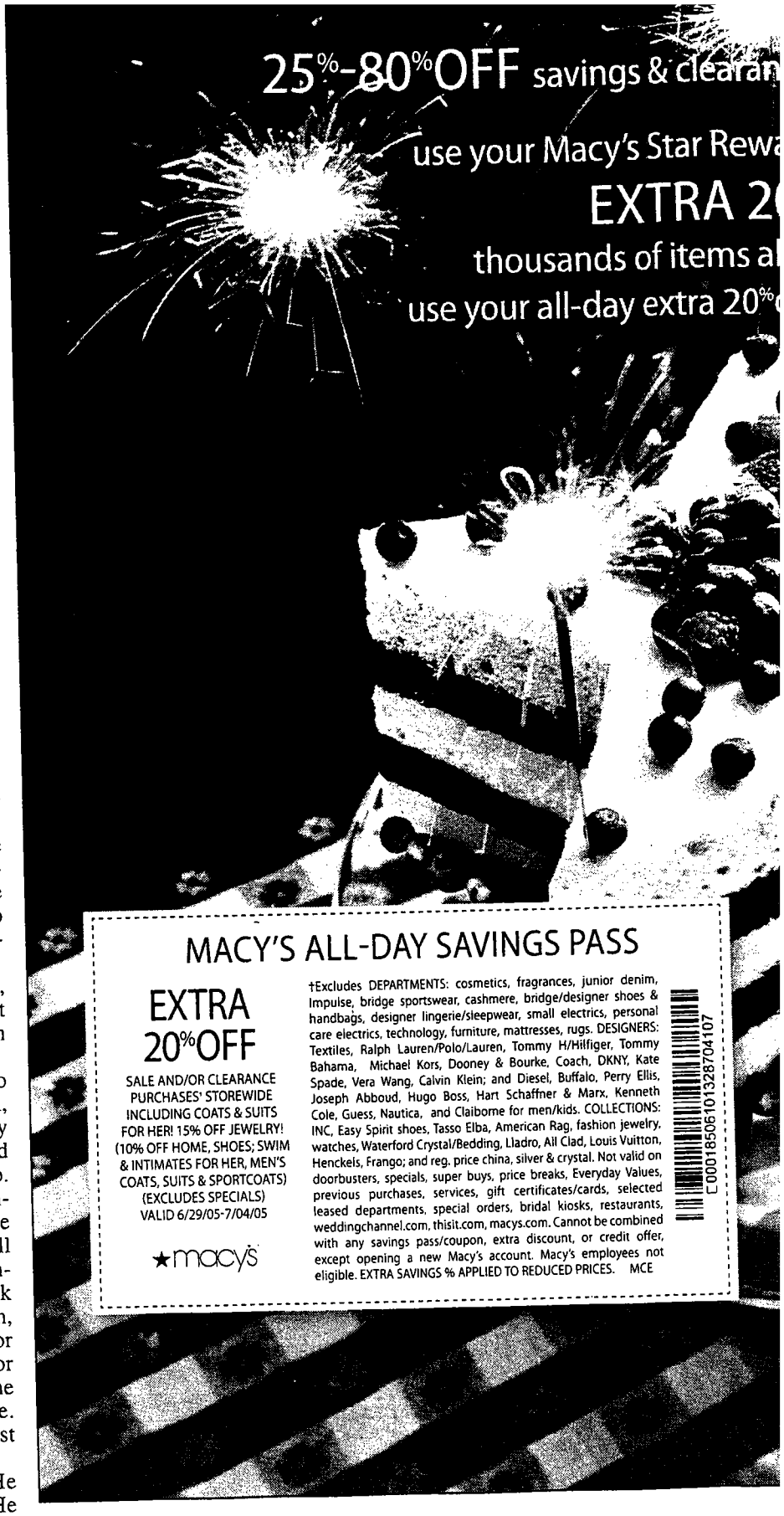
Mom: And this year they're hoping to collect some canned goods for the Weymouth Food Pantry. People can call Marie for details at (781) 340-6976. People have an opportunity to have a fun-filled day and help some of their neighbors - I think it's just wonderful. Now they have pie eating contests, face painting, water balloon toss, largest catch of the day contest, raffles, and much more. Interestingly, Warden Phil told me he couldn't help noticing the number of girls fishing last year. Last year he wore a shirt that had a red herring printed on it, and a prize was given to the person who spotted it. He's quite a fisherman himself.

Pop: You know, Mom, sometimes I think you're just a mite too interested in Warden Phil.

Mom: Why, Pop, I do believe you're jealous. Well, you have nothing to worry about. He might be a good fisherman, but he's no Pop. By the way, this year all fishing has to be done on the shoreline, not in a boat. All fish will be checked throughout the day and released back into the pond. Once again, Saturday, July 16th — rain or shine. I don't blame Ebb for getting excited. Fun for all the family there's the phone. Okay, I'll tell him you rest easy, and thank you.

Pop: That was Ebb? He baked three apple pies? He gave one to Mary Ann and Johnny to take home, he's having them bring the second up to us, and he ate the third all by himself and has to lie down and rest because he's so stuffed. What a guy.

Mom: You know for an amateur psychologist, you're quite a guy yourself.



MACY'S ALL-DAY SAVINGS PASS

EXTRA 20%OFF

SALE AND/OR CLEARANCE PURCHASES' STOREWIDE INCLUDING COATS & SUITS FOR HER! 15% OFF JEWELRY! (10% OFF HOME, SHOES; SWIM & INTIMATES FOR HER, MEN'S COATS, SUITS & SPORTCOATS) (EXCLUDES SPECIALS) VALID 6/29/05-7/04/05

★macy's

†Excludes DEPARTMENTS: cosmetics, fragrances, junior denim, Impulse, bridge sportswear, cashmere, bridge/designer shoes & handbags, designer lingerie/sleepwear, small electrics, personal care electrics, technology, furniture, mattresses, rugs. DESIGNERS: Textiles, Ralph Lauren/Polo/Lauren, Tommy H/Hilfiger, Tommy Bahama, Michael Kors, Dooney & Bourke, Coach, DKNY, Kate Spade, Vera Wang, Calvin Klein; and Diesel, Buffalo, Perry Ellis, Joseph Abboud, Hugo Boss, Hart Schaffner & Marx, Kenneth Cole, Guess, Nautica, and Claiborne for men/kids. COLLECTIONS: INC, Easy Spirit shoes, Tasso Elba, American Rag, fashion jewelry, watches, Waterford Crystal/Bedding, Lladro, All Clad, Louis Vuitton, Henckels, Frango; and reg. price china, silver & crystal. Not valid on doorbusters, specials, super buys, price breaks, Everyday Values, previous purchases, services, gift certificates/cards, selected leased departments, special orders, bridal kiosks, restaurants, weddingchannel.com, thisit.com, macys.com. Cannot be combined with any savings pass/coupon, extra discount, or credit offer, except opening a new Macy's account. Macy's employees not eligible. EXTRA SAVINGS % APPLIED TO REDUCED PRICES. MCE

C000185061013287041 07

SALE PRICES IN EFFECT UNTIL 7/04/05. Sorry, no phone orders. Sale merchandise from selected groups unless otherwise described. Advertis
Macy's, and selections may vary. Store offers do not apply on macys.com, and macys.com offers do not apply in store. Not responsible for

WEEK OF JUNE 26: SHOP SUN 11-7 MON-SAT 10-9:30 • ALBANY & COLONIE SUN 11-6 • BOSTON SUN 11-8 MON-SAT 9:30-9 • BROCKTON SUN 11-6 • I
• NASHUA, NEWINGTON, SALEM & WATERFORD SUN 11-6 • PEABODY, BRAINTREE, BURLINGTON AND NATICK MON-SAT 10-10 • WARWICK SUN 12-6 MON-
• SOUTH PORTLAND SUN 11-6 MON-SAT 9:30-9

Mom and Pop Whitman and weed watcher class

Mom: So, Pop, tell me about the weed watcher training class. I really wanted to attend, but I couldn't miss Roberta Sloane's shower. I've known her since she was a baby and her mother would never have forgiven me.

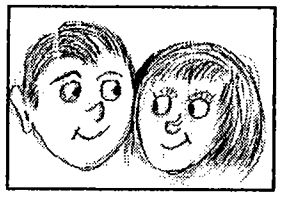
Pop: Well, sometimes you have to do things to fulfill responsibilities, put aside personal wishes, and I'm proud of you for being concerned about people's feelings. I know you would have enjoyed the class, but I can tell you all about it,

Mom: Oh, I just knew you d go out of your way to make certain I would get all the information. You're pretty responsible yourself.

Pop: Well, don't make me blush, but I am inclined to agree with you. Anyhow, let's get to the class. Michelle Robinson and Jim Straub conducted the class. We had seven members show up - just the right number for the class to be effective. Michelle began by telling us how invasive species get their start in our lakes and ponds. You know people dump aquariums, boats carry fragments, ballast from boats. People have to learn to be responsible and careful. I just can't emphasize that enough.

Mom. I'm with you there, Pop, but calm down. And how did you find your friend Michelle to be? A wonderful person and Jim was a fine fellow - I see.

Pop: Gosh, Mom, you're not going to start that jealousy thing again. Okay, then I'll go on. Samples of various species were put into glass bowls containing water and given to each of us to try to identify. We were given "A Guide to Aquatic Plants in Massachusetts" prepared by the New England Aquarium, "A Guide to Selected Invasive Non-native Aquatic Species in Massachusetts" written by Michelle with input by Jim, a booklet describing the Weed Watcher Program, and a sheet with helpful hints for using the Aquarium Guide.



Mom: Were you given some help with the guides?

Pop: Oh, yes, We went over the sheet first where we learned that the weeds are grouped as : submerged, floating-leafed, or emergent.

Mom: According to the sheet, Milfoil is a submerged sample, lilies are floating-leafed, and cattails are emergent as well as our chief nemesis - loosestrife. Jim stated that most invasive plants would not be in deep water as they need the sunlight to grow. A plant like loosestrife can absorb the sunlight on the main plant and feed the shoots under water allowing them to multiply. Some species can survive with minimum sunlight like Hydrilla which is established in one pond on Cape Cod. It can grow an inch a day under ideal conditions; it blocks out sunlight from reaching other plants, and can hinder or entirely prevent boating. The state of Florida spends millions of dollars each year trying to manage Hydrilla.

Pop: And an important point we should mention is that several of the submerged species like: Milfoil, Fanwort, and Curly Pondweed cause the available oxygen in the water to be used up when they die and decay, and this causes fish kills, usually in the winter when shallow water has iced-over.

Mom: Yes, such a situation occurred last year at the new park; a great number of fish were found dead from lack of oxygen because of the decay of invasive plants.

Pop: Well, to get back to the class on identification: the first determination is whether the plant is submerged, floating-leafed, or emergent. The next step is to determine the leaf shape. Sample drawings are on the sheet that show opposite pairs, whorled, flat leaves and many more. Next, one must go to one of the three reference charts at the rear of the Aquarium Guide, and follow the chart down describing the leaves - dissected, as bumps, with bladders, etc. At various stages on the chart, one will find names of the plants. Then one must go to the beginning of the guide where the various plants are listed with page numbers so that you can get a thorough description of the plant, and you determine if you have a match.

Mom: It's almost like playing detective, Pop. And most importantly, if one should find a plant that looks different and unidentified , put the plant into a freezer bag with some water and put it into a padded envelope with the word "urgent" on it, and mail it to Lakes and Ponds Program, 251 Causeway St. Suite 800, Boston, Ma. 02114; or call 617-626-1382 for Michelle Robinson. I can't stress enough how important it is to keep an eye open for invasive species, if not caught early, they are unbelievably difficult to get rid of - the problem actually becomes a matter of management, not elimination.

Pop: Well, I've got to leave now. Ebb wants to go over to the park and look for good fishing spots for the Fishin' Festival on July 16. I'm taking some freezer bags to collect some plants and a short coil of rope.

Mom: Why on earth do you need the rope?

Pop: In case he falls into the water, I'll be able to get him out and remain dry.

Neil Russo

Summer of f

RECREATION ROUNDUP

CARL POWERS

Wednesday, July 13 - 15, 6 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday, July 16 - 17, noon - Family fun festival, at Lovell field, North Weymouth.

Saturday, July 16, 20 a.m. Whitman's Pond Family Fishin Festival, Whitman's Pond, Middle St.

Saturday, Nov. 23, noon - 4 p.m. Beach Day, Lane Beach, N. Weymouth.

For information call Weymouth recreation 781-682-6124.

Weymouth Recreation will begin its Thursday night "Fun in the Parks 200 Thursday, July every Thursda switching from on Aug. 11. A the Amphithea (town hall). 6:30 p.m. unt begin at 8:30 p bring a friend, ket. The first f the "Brass Co

Save the da Weymouth Re Day, on Satu noon to 4 p.m held at Georg River Street i Rain date is Su to 4:30 p.m.

Upcoming summer events

COUNCIL CORNER

WEYMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

Look here for upcoming meetings, hearings and district events involving town council.

At-Large Councilors: Joseph Connolly, 781-337-8082; Greg Hargardon, 781-337-9138; Sue Kay, 781-331-2879; Colin McPherson, 781-331-2187 and Mike Molisse, 781-331-4339.

Upcoming meetings:

Residents are encouraged to call all councilors with questions or concerns you may have regarding South Shore Naval Air Base.

Tuesday, July 12 – 3p.m. Ordinance Review Committee, Kelly Room, town hall.

Thursday, July 14 – 7:30 p.m. – School Committee, council cham-

Tuesday, Ju Weymouth Re Broad St.

Monday, Jul Town Council So. Weymout Plan.

Councilors opinion on the Weymouth Na using the numb

In the District District 1 - Shanahan, 781-

District 2 - C 781-331-2685

District 3 DeFazio, 781-3

District 4 Mathews, 781-

District 5 - C 781-335-5244

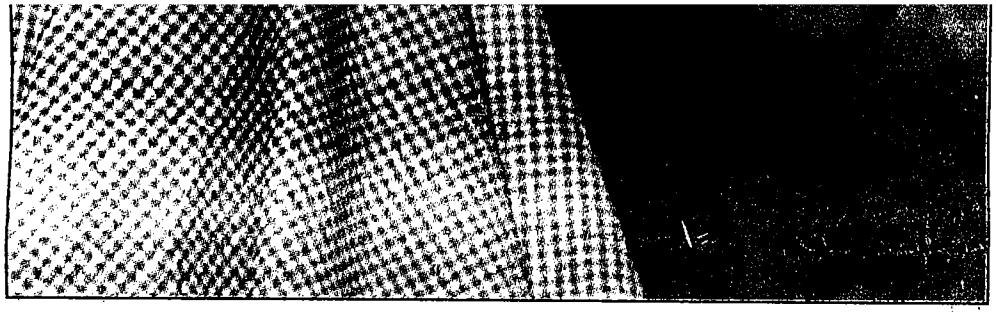
District 6 - Smart, 781-331

:al early this year, and none was etected.

The second violation came rom a discrepancy in data col- ection after the computer system hat monitors water at the Great 'ond Water Treatment Plant suf- ered a malfunction in the spring f 2004.

The monitoring system - called ie Supervisory Control and ata Acquisition, or SCADA /stem - checks the plant's 12 fil- rs for turbidity, or the clarity of

SEE WATER, PAGE 10



PHOTO/BRIAN NAUGHTON

"Dorothy," Cassidy Farrell of Weymouth and "Toto," Rose Zillaba, are in awe in the Land of Oz during In Sync Dance Company's production of "The Wizard of Oz."

WEY. NEWS 10/12/05

Anthony Pignone, chairman of the Abington board of health

Abington Transfer Station, LLC, was proposing to build an 1,800 ton capacity transfer station for solid waste on Route 18 in Abington near the Weymouth town line.

The proposal was made to Abington by Paul Barry of Graham Waste Service in Cohasset, and the Abington

safety, as well as the environment.

Barry filed a lawsuit against the board in Superior Court in 2003, but his request to have the board's decision reversed was denied.

Abington Transfer Station, LLC challenged the decision, but on Oct. 6, the appeals court upheld the ruling made by the Superior Court.

Health Board Chairman Anthony Pignone said that the

SEE TRANSFER, PAGE 10

Rakes busy in Whitman's cleanup

By Michael Verseckes
MVERSECK@CNC.COM

An old refrigerator, a shopping carriage or two, and a few tires.

In years past, the condition of Whitman's Pond has been substantially worse, but since the Whitman's Pond Association started organizing annual pond cleanup days, the group has seen an improvement.

Lorraine Larrabee, the association's president, said that last Saturday's cleanup effort still had a solid showing of people who wanted to help out, despite the weather.

"It was excellent," she said. "Even under the rainy conditions, I'd say we had about 85 people, which was a darn good turnout even with the rain."

"That shows the great respect they have for the pond."

Lorraine Larrabee, Whitman's Pond Association president

Larrabee said that with special help from the Boy Scouts and the Department of Public Works (DPW), the association was able to clean out some of the tributaries, areas along the shore, and start the process of replacing the pond restorer, a filter that helps with the pond's ecological system.

Even 90-year-old Mary Jackson was there to pitch in, Larrabee said.

"I was very surprised with the amount of people that showed up, even with their kids," she said. "That shows the great respect they have for the pond."

Councilor Arthur Mathews, who represents District 4, said that despite some of the larger pieces of debris pulled from the pond, the condition is improving.

"For the weather, I thought it was a pretty good turnout," he

SEE CLEANUP, PAGE 10

STAFF PHOTO/TOM GORMAN

Mike Richardi removes algae from Whitman's Pond during the cleanup day on Saturday.

LASSOING LOUIE

Ordinance change eyed for appointments

By Michael Verseckes
MVERSECK@CNC.COM

After two residents were not reappointed to their posts on town boards by Mayor David Madden, the town council will now review a proposal which would provide more notice to board members whose terms are about to end.

Suggested by Councilor Kenneth DiFazio, the change would require the mayor to give

According to the town's charter, the mayor has the sole authority to appoint board members.

The names are submitted to the town council, which can either reject or approve the submission.

If the council rejects a submission, it cannot offer another name.

If the council takes no action, the submission still takes effect after 30 days.

During the Oct. 3 council meeting, DiFazio suggested changes in the ordinance's wording which would not allow members to continue serving on a board beyond June 30.

In addition, the mayor would be required to notify a board member 60 days before the term's end of his or her decision to either reappoint a current board member or fill the seat with someone else.

Water not unsafe despite violations

FROM WATER, PAGE 1

the water.

A notice that went out to homeowners said that four of the plant's 12 filters produced "insufficient water quality information."

In an interview after the council meeting, Brad Hayes, superintendent of the town's water and sewer department, said that the computer screen for the SCADA system had the correct readings, but the paperwork sent to the DEP was inaccurate.

Normally, the SCADA system displays readings on a monitor, Hayes said.

Monthly reports are sent to the DEP, and then the data is erased and begins recording for the next month.

"At no time was any resident ever in danger of any bad water quality."

Brad Hayes, superintendent of the water and sewer department

Hayes said that by the time the DEP notified the town, the previous month's data was already gone.

The water department began manually testing the water's turbidity and sent that data to the DEP.

Manual tests repeatedly showed the turbidity to be within safe limits.

"At no time was any resident ever in danger of any bad water quality," Hayes said.

DEP spokesperson Ed Coletta said that the violation for turbidity monitoring issued by the DEP was based on a technicality of reporting methods for manual testing after the system malfunction.

"There was a problem with the data collection and that is a violation, but there was never a problem with the water itself," he said. "Other than that, there's no quality issue.

"It's important that the quality of water being provided is up to state regulations. They had a problem with a few of the filters, but they're back up and operating properly."

Whitman pond cleanup

FROM CLEANUP, PAGE 1

said.

Mathews said that the group focused more on the shoreline and tributaries this year.

While he was out there, Mathews noticed that the pond was in better shape.

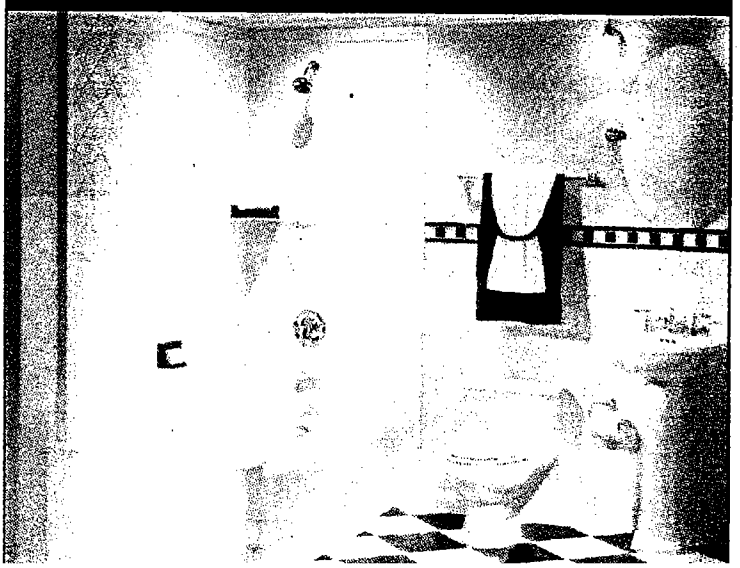
"This year wasn't as bad as it has been, which is a good thing," he said. "It shows to me that the cleanups are effective. It sends a signal to people who pollute the pond, and also more people get involved each year."

Citizens Bank
Not your typical bank.®

a typo.

News hotline - (781) 682-4850

UGLY BATHROOM?
We Put A New Bathtub Over Your Old One



SAL GIARRATANI

Who says you can't
again? You can, but don
ing there. The rent is to
sive.

I grew up in St. Philip's
lower Roxbury down
Green Shoe. If you know
these places, it is proof
from there. Today, St. P
now the site of Rosie's P
the Green Shoe is but a

In late summer, I alw
to think back to younger
years ago when life se
much easier. Back then.
the choices came down
park to play softball at.
be Carter Playgrou
Columbus Avenue, o
Praire over by Old Mr. P

Neither had lights bac
games were played until
no longer see the ball. To
are lights everywhere
games happen.

I'm sure our parents
there were no lights. It n
ting home for supper on

The other day while
on Melnea Cass Boulev
my radio on. Madonna
singing a song about her
She talked about her pla

As I approached Alba
I remembered the old
Street Playground.
between the new publ
and Dog Day Afterno
the field was paved so
slid into bases unless w
a visit to the accident flo
Hospital.

It was great for left.
there were few cars on
Street over in right fiel

Cleanup of Whitman's Pond

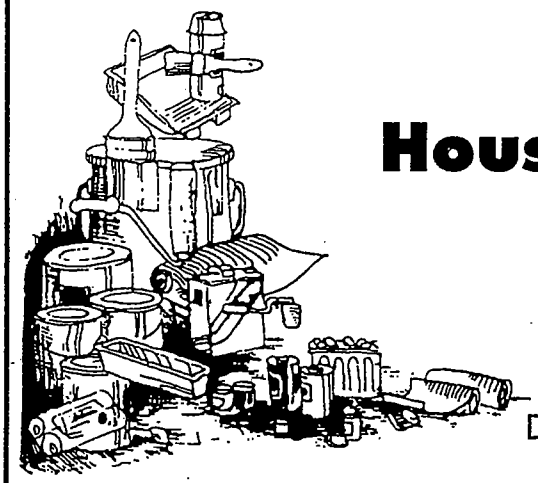
Despite rain, volunteers turned out for the annual Whitman's Pond cleanup day sponsored by the Whitman's Pond Association. The area by the boat ramp on Middle Street was cleaned along with the South Cove by the pumping station on Washington Street.

Staff photos by Tom Gorman

Volunteers Jeff Gay and Bruce MacLeod make their way back to shore after cleaning the South Cove of Whitman's Pond.

Mary Jackson, 90, hauls netting removed from the South Cove of Whitman's Pond.

Phil Lofgren removes netting from a boat that was plucked from the South Cove of Whitman's Pond.



Town of Weymouth
Household Hazardous Waste
Collection Day

Help the Environment, Bring Your Hazardous Waste

Saturday, October 15, 2005
9 am to 1:30 pm (Rain/Shine)
DPW Parking Lot, 120 Winter Street, Weymouth, MA

Let's All Pitch In To Make Our Environment A Safer Place

1. Once again this fall, Weymouth residents can reach into their cupboards and literally move the issue of hazardous waste out of their homes.

2. On October 15, 2005, between the hours of **9 am and 1:30 pm,** residents will have the opportunity to bring their hazardous household products, unwanted pesticides, solvents, oils, paints, cleaners, etc. to the parking lot of the D.P.W. Building at 120 Winter Street.

3. A professional waste handling company will be on hand to safely receive and transport this material to licensed out-of-state facilities for environmentally sound disposal.

4. This program is town funded and open only to Weymouth residents. Only hazardous materials will be accepted. **POSITIVELY NO HOUSEHOLD RUBBISH OR TRASH.**

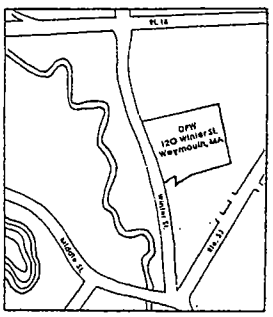
5. Businesses are excluded from participating in this collection.

6. For more information about the household hazardous waste collection, call the Department of Public Works, 120 Winter Street, (781) 337-5100.

From The House	From The Garage-Workbench	From The Yard/Garden
• Drain Cleaners	• Gasoline (5 gals. Limit)	• Pesticides
• Oven Cleaners	• Paint Thinners	• Herbicides
• Furniture Polish	• Paint Removers	• Insect Pump Sprays
• Metal Polish	• Antifreeze	• Rodent Killers
• Flashlight Batteries	• Chemistry Kits	• Pool Chemicals
• Outdated Medications	• Brake Fluid	• Muriatic Acid
• Floor Cleaners	• Wax Polish	• No-Pest Strips
• Window Cleaners	• Engine & Radiator Flushes	• Septic System Cleaners
• Dry Cleaning Fluids	• Transmission Fluid	• Waste Oil
• Radiator Cleaners	• Lead Paints	
• Arts & Crafts	• Wood Preservative	

ALL WASTE OIL AND VEHICLE BATTERIES WILL BE ACCEPTED ONLY AT WINTER STREET.
5 DAYS A WEEK
FROM 8:30 AM TO 3:30 PM

WHAT WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED
Asbestos • Explosives
Fireworks • Ammunition • Radioactives



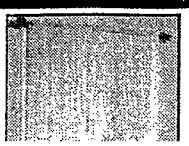
ATTENTION ADVERTISERS:

Due to a billing and production system conversion
Community Newspaper Company
will be moving most newspaper deadlines

us with savings
Curtain Factory OUTLET

"Elizabeth" Panel
• Full 54" Wide

Semi-Sheer Panels hang beautifully and have a soft, chiffon look and feel!



transfer station project was averted.

The members of REACT deserve a round of applause for their vigilance and their not-to-be-deterred efforts to publicize the facts of the impact that this project would have on Weymouth, Abington, and neighboring towns along Route 18.

The Abington Transfer Station was truly a bad idea for this location.

Abington has wisely changed the zoning on the site from industrial to technology and business.

As Weymouth Councilor-at-Large Joseph Connolly, a South Weymouth resident, said:

"The site has many uses, but a transfer station isn't one of them."

Making Mom and Pop Whitman proud

Mom and Pop Whitman must be busting their buttons with pride right about now.

It's been a long haul.

In recent years, cleanup day at Whitman Pond meant hauling tons of debris out of the water. One year, there was even an old rusty junk car dragged out of the pond. The variety of junk that people carelessly tossed into one of Weymouth's most treasured natural resources was amazing - everything from broken rocking horses to old bedsprings.

This year was different.

There was still debris to be pulled out, including a refrigerator, shopping carriages, and some tires.

But, this year, there was a big improvement.

Since the Whitman Pond Association started cleanup day at the pond, things have gradually been getting better. In the beginning, progress was slow, and the amount of junk piled on the side of the pond on cleanup day made for interesting, if discouraging, photo shoots. As the association raised awareness of the plight at the pond, people began to respond by stopping using its depths as a dump.

This year, all the association's efforts paid off.

Because the actual cleanup of the pond took less muscle, the association was able to broaden the effort to include clearing out some of the tributaries and sprucing up areas along the shore. Workers even started the process of replacing the pond restorer, a filter that helps with the pond's ecological system.

People are beginning to be proud of their pond.

More than that, people are beginning to care -both for and about Whitman's Pond.

"That shows the great respect they have for the pond," said Lorraine Larrabee, Whitman's Pond Association president.

And we're sure Mom and Pop Whitman are giving a hearty "Well done!" to the Whitman Pond Association.

and David Wight, who served the town admirably for a number of years.

Without consideration, courtesy, or professionalism of any kind, these two men were terminated by Mayor Madden.

Deluded

Jean York is deluded. She seems to think that all of our problems wouldn't exist if President Bush hadn't been

TVs and sneakers are just small potatoes.

A reply to York

I'm responding to Jean York's "Free Speech" column in which she complained about the prices of tomatoes and gas being so high. Maybe she has forgotten about Jimmy Carter's presidency.

$190,000 was laundered by

serie
note
won
Red
88-1
In
more
Sox,
ning
play
We
team

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Fitting for a museum

TO THE EDITOR:

I just finished reading "Fitting for a Museum" in your Sound Off section and felt compelled to write. I agree with the author that the Fogg Library would make a wonderful museum. But the statements that the town "would have" a notable museum and that the three historical groups in town are struggling is misleading. I think the author may be misinformed and would like to help.

First, the Weymouth Historical Society is alive and well with approximately 150 members and not struggling with funding. The Society celebrated its 125th anniversary this past year. We operate the Weymouth Museum located in the lower level of the Tufts Library on Broad St. Our volunteers are on hand Monday nights from 7 - 9 p.m. for tours. They also give private tours for the school children as part of the curriculum and cub scouts as part of their advancement. We also operate the Jason Holbrook Homestead at 238 Park Ave in South Weymouth. The Homestead is our genealogical library with town records back to the 1600's. Our volunteers are on hand Wednesdays from 9 a.m. - 1p.m. to help with genealogy questions or to give tours of the multiple exhibits housed at the Homestead. Both notable.

The Society also has a program of monthly meetings that run from September through April. There is a guest speaker at each meeting on an array of historical subjects. All meetings are open to the public. The Museum, Homestead, and meetings are free of charge. More information on the society can be found on-line at weymouthhistoricalsociety.org The Abigail Adams Historical Society is also alive and well. It operates the Abigail Adams Birthplace, also a notable museum. It is my understanding their only struggle was the cost of the major restorations the b irthplace had to undergo.

I can't speak for the Patriot Squadron of the NAS because I don't have much information on them. But I believe they are to receive the Tri-Town Authority building as a museum under the base redevelopment plan. I understand they are housed in a section of the recreations building on the base now and open by appointment.

I believe conjoining the three groups into one would be more damaging than economical. We each have our own benefactors that believe in the mission each group represents and make their donations to help that mission. Our members also have a passion for the mission of each individual group. I believe conjoining could be detrimental

from
bers
Th
Abi
Wey
Con
thei
awa
hist
offe
coal
com
publ
live
has
a jo
Holl
at 7
and
in a
this
atte
Hist
hold
at th
fron
ever
wha
wha
Ho
ened
"Fit
othe
stan
tryi
still
harc
sign
ond
wea

W

WEYMOUTH NEWS 10/19/05

Community Newspaper Company,165 Enterprise Drive, Marshfield, MA 02050 781/829-9305, FAX: 781/837-4540

EDITOR IN CHIEF: MARK SKALA
781-837-4574, EMAIL: mskala@cnc.com

MANAGING EDITOR: CATHY CONLEY
781-682-4850, EMAIL: cconley@cnc.com

ASSOCIATE EDITOR: BOB AICARDI
781-682-4855, EMAIL: baicardi@cnc.com

SPORTS EDITOR: NICHOLAS FRENCH

be dressed in waders.

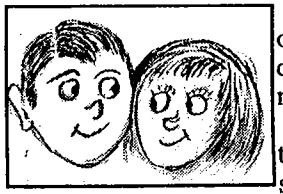
(follow-up call)

The DPW says they are looking at replacing the

Lucchino to his boardroom, held him responsible for screwing up contract negotiations with (former General Manager) Theo Epstein, and told him,

her every name in the book day after day and night after night.

Mom and Pop: rain is threat to quality of pond water



Mom: Who was that on the phone, Pop? You don't look too happy - not bad news I hope.

Pop: Well, nothing big to worry about. Ebb's shed has a leak and he's very anxious to get it fixed as more rain is expected. Unfortunately for me, Ebb is afraid of height and I have to go up on the roof.

Mom: Listen here, Pop; you're no spring chicken...I don't think you should go up on the roof

Pop: Oh, the slope is quite slight and the shed isn't higher than ten feet. I'll be fine...I know I'm no kid, but I never do anything I don't think I can handle. I've helped him before with the roof. It's a piece of cake. By the way I couldn't find that last piece of chocolate cake this morning

Mom: In case you forgot - you polished it off last night after supper. Maybe Ebb will bake something to repay your help on the roof.

Pop: It's won't be easy but I'll work on him. Boy I'm so tired of this rain...and we're lucky compared to those poor folks down in Florida and the other states hit by those hurricanes. But this storm water actually is a threat to the quality of water in the Pond. When it rains, the water rushes over highways, parking lots, streets, and lawns; and collects nutrients, oils, toxins, sediments, and other pollutants. The untreated water flows into storm drains that empty into the pond.

Mom: It seems odd in a way because most of us would think that fresh rainwater would be good for the pond. When rains falls in a rural or forested area, as much as 50% of it slowly percolates into or infiltrates the soil, while another 40% may reenter the atmosphere as evaporation or transpiration. The tree canopy intercepts the falling rain, allowing some to gently fall to the ground and some to return to the atmosphere. Woody debris and leaf litter on the forest floor acts as a rough sponge: slowing down, filtering and absorbing most of the limited runoff that accumulates; and giving the vegetation, soil, and microorganisms time to absorb and filter most pollutants out of the runoff before it gets to the water body.

Pop: Storm water poses a greater threat to water quality in urban and agricultural areas than in undeveloped lands. Development disturbs the soil and creates impervious surfaces such as building rooftops, roads, and parking areas. The hard surfaces replace the tree canopy and spongy forest floor, and the infiltration rate may be reduced to 35% while storm water runoff may be increased to 50%. Storm water runs off hard surfaces at an accelerated rate, collecting trash, debris, sediment, bacteria, petrochemicals, and other substances. Trash and debris scour the ground and create soil erosion. As the shorelines of water bodies become developed, the situation becomes more acute. Runoff is quickly and directly delivered into the water without the chance of infiltration. And the storm water is heated because of friction on hard surfaces thereby entering the water body with low dissolved oxygen.

Mom: Storm water runoff is an example of Nonpoint Source Pollution because it comes from a large area rather than a single source such as a pipe. Nonpoint Source Pollution is harder to control because it occurs from many activities in the watershed: development, fertilizing, and other human activities. Also, rain absorbs pollutions from the atmosphere and deposits them on the ground and in water bodies.

Pop: Let us not forget that the breakdown of organic particles in the sediments can deplete the available oxygen in a pond causing negative impacts on the fish such as fish kill. Also, suspended sediment particles reduce light transmission, which negatively impacts plant growth. People who live next to the pond should plant vegetation near the shoreline to help absorb pollutants. Low-growing bushes are much more effective in absorbing and storing rainfall. Forested areas can absorb and store 15 times more rainfall then grass.

Mom: And humans have to be careful about Point Source Pollution such as sewage and fertilizer. To determine the phosphorus content of fertilizer, read the middle number on the package, for example: 16 4 8. Four is the phosphorus indicator. A law recently passed prohibits the sale of any household-cleaning product with a concentration greater than 0.5% by weight.

Pop: I'll tell you what I'd like to see happen: The Town Council should pass an ordinance that any development near the pond should require a certain number of plantings to act as a vegetative buffer! I don't think it is unreasonable to put a requirement like that on the books. Oh, there's the phone. I'll get it. I see...okay, Ebb, I'll talk to you later. Well, I don't have to help Ebb with his shed roof...you remember that large tree next to the shed - it fell down and the shed was demolished!

WEY. NEWS 11/9/05

BMP 1-3

'The Fall of a Nation'

MATT'S OUTLOOK

MATT MCGUIRE

'home' crowds hundreds of miles from Boston. They said that if there was one place to win a World Series, it was in Boston. Well, they came. They won. They left.

seasons, something that is unheralded in these parts. And he did it with his hometown Sox, doing so by being one of the bolder GMs in the game. He was a hero. An icon. He was destined

another T-shirt that's beyond implies that the girl in question date for CEO of a Fortune dependent on a man for her liv matical, too.

Actually, printed T-shirts have a long time, it's just that no on to "girlcott" them before.

Years ago, whenever a friend suasion was having a troubleso send them a T-shirt that said, "I Broad." That was before "broad word." It's surprising what a m can do.

One of the funniest T-shirts "Nixon's the One" — worn b woman during the 1960 preside

T-shirts can be humorous, like Fun Yet?" or political, like "Vie or Leave It," or cynical, like "Su Police — Bet With A Bo Protection." Is there such a thin

I'd like to dip into my treasu the actress Mae West to start a own. How about "It's better t than overlooked," or "I tried t — but I drifted."

Or actor John Barrymore's never realize how short a mont alimony."

Or George Bernard Shaw' "Dancing is the perpendicular horizontal desire."

Your move, girls.

LETTER

FROM LETTERS, PAGE 18

Correction

TO THE EDITOR:

I stand corrected. Section 7 Standards Act (FLSA) "provi ees engaged in fire protection ment may be compensated f 'work period' basis." Accordin "work period" may range fro days to 212 hours in 28 days a typical 40-hour work week overtime for most hourly emp

Li

Don't contribute to

Regarding Officer Jim Bowen's letter: "Marijuana is addictive" (12-21-05). If Bowen thinks that marijuana is addictive, why does he want it to remain completely unregulated, untaxed and controlled by criminals? Only legal products of any kind can be regulated, taxed and controlled by any government.

Kirk Muse
Mesa, AZ

That's true enough. So does that mean massive expenditures on overwhelming law enforcement is the best way to keep us safe? Or is treating substance abuse as a public health issue and putting our resources into education, prevention and treatment a more effective way of dealing with the problem?

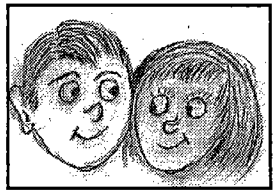
veggie burgers, soy dogs, deli slices, ready-to-eat frozen dinners, and soy milk and ice cream, it's got to be the easiest resolution we'll ever keep.

Warren Sidwell

WEY. NEWS 12/28/05

Invasive plants concern Mom and Pop Whitman

Pop: Gee, Mom, I've been sitting here thinking about what a great Christmas we had. Lem surprised the heck out of us by showing up… and brought us some canned salmon that he caught himself, and Sally arrived from Washington with more information for us, and Ebb baked up a storm: cake, cookies, pies. And your sirloin roast was out-of-this-world. Even grouchy Mr. Snaid joined his wife and some of the neighbors touring the neighborhood singing Christmas carols. If only people could be kind to each other all year round, the world would be a much better place.



Mom: Total ditto on that. Take Ebb and Lem - you know how they always used to clash - not one hint of animosity. The fact that Sally was there helped, but they certainly had the spirit this year. You know I really enjoyed our discussion about lakes and ponds that Sally initiated. I was shocked to hear that 94% of the water on our planet fills our oceans, 2% is trapped in glaciers and snow caps, 4% lies under ground, and only 1/10th is fresh surface water, - 0.1%. It's so important for all citizens to realize that we must protect this precious and vulnerable resource.

Pop: Total, total ditto. I was reading the other day about the spill that occurred in China where 100 tons of benzene, potentially cancer-causing chemical, and other chemicals fell into the Songhua River in China's northeast. I'm not positive, but I think a factory exploded causing the enormous spill. Anyhow, water supplies to millions of people were disrupted, and the spill is headed toward Russia. Last I read was that the Chinese were considering building a dam to stop the flow, but can you imagine the ecological damage that has been done already.

Mom: Indeed I do. You know it's often stated by scientists that lakes and ponds are destined to die, not for 100's or 1,000's of years, unless human activity accelerates the process. Lakes and ponds go through three stages. The first stage is called Oligotrophic which means it is nutrient poor, has clear water, usually deep barren basins, and little aquatic plant growth. However, lakes and ponds are constantly changing as sediments and decomposing organisms slowly fill the basin and changes occur in the succession of plants and animals.

Pop: Right, and when silt and decaying organisms begin to enrich the lake or pond, it becomes more biologically complex. As the lake or pond becomes nutrient-rich, it moves to the Mesotrophic stage. The once clear lake or pond now has more plants and water quality is not as good, plus the plants are reducing the amount of water. Eventually, if the nutrients are allowed to infiltrate the pond or lake, it moves to the Eutrophic state. When invasive plants keep increasing, the pond or lake enters the Hypereutrophic stage and becomes a marsh or swamp.

Our own West Cove behind St. Francis' Cemetery on Middle Street is Hypereutrophic, covered with purple loosestrife. Unless action is taken to eliminate or at least control the loosestrife, the West Cove will exist no longer. It will become the marsh behind St. Francis' or the fields of loosestrife such as they have at the former Mill Pond in Norwell.

Mom: As I mentioned before, the successional process usually takes thousands of years, but human activity often accelerates the process. Humans add phosphorus from fertilizers, sediments from run-off, urban development, land clearing, and septic waste. The human activity is called cultural eutrophication.

Pop: It's critical that the general public becomes involved in maintaining our lakes and ponds for future generations. There are over 3,000 lakes and ponds in Massachusetts that provide drinking water, irrigation, electricity, aesthetic values, recreation, and habitat for fish and wildlife.

Mom: Total ditto on that, Pop. You know: Henry David Thoreau was so inspired by Walden Pond that in the mid 1800's he wrote, "A lake is the landscape's most beautiful and expressive feature. It is earth's eye; looking into which the beholder measures the depth of his own nature.' Pretty well said. Oh, there's the phone… you get it, Pop

Pop: Hello… hi, Ebb - you say you're still a little dizzy from the eggnog. You probably drank too much. Well, lie down and relax you'll be okay in a little while.

Mom: Dear me… that lad has a vivid imagination - the only thing I put in that eggnog was two tablespoons of imitation rum extract.

—Neil Russo

Historical oddities

WEYMOUTH NOTES

TED CLARKE

became a great success, and he branched out, going beyond sports to all kinds of oddities.

Fortunately for him, this young man liked to travel. He visited South America in 1922 and did a cartoon series on the oddities he found there. Three years later he did the same with Asia. During his career, he visited nearly 200 countries. He wrote

ry that got hit by lightning.

His appearance wasn't the only thing about him that was odd. He collected cars, but he never learned to drive. He used all kinds of recording devices in a radio show he hosted, but was afraid to use a telephone for fear that he would be electrocuted. He owned an odd collection of boats including dug-out

with Merry Christmas or Hap
ken.

Songs from the Broadwa
Superstar" also were pulled
after two parents complained
the program. As far as I know
replacement.

The war on Christmas wasn
It went all the way to the Wh
pants sent out 1.4 million Chr
friends a "Happy Holiday" w
friends, who voted for said o
upset.

They failed to rouse Falwell
Cookies baked into the sha
were banned from "holiday'
Elementary School in Center
Congress found it necessary
Protect Christmas Symbols an

The comment that made th
Tracy Goldrick, mother of
schoolgirl, who told the Bostc

"The solution isn't to take C
events). The solution is telling

And then we can get back tc

'The Ri
Doubt' re

REVIEW

BOB CASIMIRO

Tufts library non-fiction
reviewed "The River of Dou

This is an excellent book a
ture of Teddy Roosevelt.]

We know of Teddy Roose
who later went to the westen
rugged life; the Rough Rid
San Juan Hill; his African s
dent; the "Bull Moose" car
cessfully for a third presiden

What may not be as well
adventure, an expedition do
Brazil in 1914 on a trip that

Roosevelt sponsored a trip
(Rio da Dúvida), an une
Amazon River. The exped
and Brazilian explorers and

s. I don't want to enrich
anti-American endeav-

tral Square and Jackson
and made a list of the

ef & Pizzeria; Broad St.
ety; Justice Hardware;
House of Pizza; Country
s (George H. Hunt
Bank; the Venetian
q. Barbers; George
& Appliance; Niko's

be your first stop for any
the expertise you won't
't have to walk a country
and discover when you
ne wrong thing.

trade;" they are more concerned about off shoring/outsourcing American jobs and those who object are called "isolationists" by George Bush (We haven't heard that term since pre-World War II days). The latest insult was the recent vote in the U.S. Senate to cover another bloated budget by raising the debt ceiling to an astonishing $9 trillion.

Buying from local merchants is about more than convenience and seeing the same friendly face each time you shop. It's about your security and your future. You don't want to send your consumer dollars to an out of town, out of state, or out of country entity that is either indifferent or hostile to the concerns of you and your family. That includes Washington, DC as well as Beijing, China; Caracas, Venezuela, or the emirate of Dubai.

Buy local; send a message.

A.Robert Casimiro can be reached at arcasimiro@msn.com

er Brewster Island

d Massachusetts politi-
policy.
acks the government did
tential terrorist attack of
Boston as a model. It
shoulder mounted rock-
these supertankers as it
or. The resulting fireball
vo miles and incinerate
orth End, Charlestown,
esulting fires would rage
the natural gas burned,
of Boston, Cambridge,
The loss of life would be
d the financial loss in the
ory is truly tragic; Old
ll Memorial, and Paul
ew of the Freedom Trail
s piles of ash.
aggeration, why are all
by the Coast Guard? Or
century LNG accidents
k have caused hundreds
the solution? Move the
populated Everett to an
location. The location of
nd.
's located on the edge of
and residents as well as
pping lanes. Until recent-
vice web site listed the
k outcropping" without
ial tourists. Studies have
birds or mammals such
d this rock so it seems the

perfect location for an industrial LNG facility. Unfortunately the environmental lobby has other ideas.

Groups like MASSPIRG, of which I used to be a member, and pandering politicians like Hedlund and Murphy have tried to portray Outer Brewster as some sort of wildlife refuge or "jewel" in Boston Harbor. They want it to be left as is and any proposed LNG facility moved elsewhere. The question then becomes, where? If a lonely desolate rock at the edge of the harbor isn't a good place for an LNG facility, where is? Every day wasted looking for a new location is one more day the Port of Boston and indeed Eastern Massachusetts, is at risk for catastrophe. Apparently these radical environmentalists and spineless politicians are not worried about terrorist attacks. They don't care that besides the loss of life and property in such event, Boston Harbor itself would end up a toxic soup of chemicals and runoff from the burned out coast. They don't care or understand that the aftermath of an LNG disaster in Boston would make hurricane Katrina look like a late summer drizzle.

In this complicated age of terrorism choices are not always clear and hard decisions need to be made. We need an LNG facility. Thousands of families are kept warm at night with natural gas. We also need to preserve the progress made in cleaning up Boston Harbor in the last 15 years.

Moving the LNG facility to Outer Brewster is a responsible and balanced approach that will satisfy both concerns. We need responsible people and truly courageous politicians to make the right decision and support this plan.

Or Kevin Weeks' book, "The Untold Story of My Life Inside Whitey Bulger's Irish Mob."

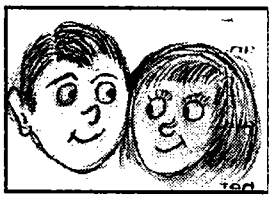
Or Patrick Nee's book, "The Inside Story of the Boston Mob-IRA Connection."

Whitmans focus on pesticides

Mom: So how did things go with Ebb this morning? Is he getting back to his normal self? He's baking us a chocolate cake? That is wonderful news... and you have a report he found for us about the nation's rivers and streams. Let's take a look at it

Pop: Here you go, mom. I can't get over how well he's doing. He said he has an urge to bake - much to my delight - and intends to devote more time to doing research about the environment. I can't get over the transformation.

Mom: Well, that is good news. Unfortunately, this report is not good news. In a study released by the U.S. Geological Survey that was done between 1992 and 2001, pesticides were found in almost all U.S. rivers and streams. That's the bad news. The good news is that most drinking water supplies have not been affected.



Pop: However, the rivers and streams are contaminated with pesticides linked to cancer, birth defects, and neurological disorders - not at levels that can harm humans, but they were found in most fish. Pesticides were detected most frequently in shallow groundwater beneath agricultural and urban areas. More than half the wells contained one or more pesticide compounds. Mixed land-use areas were also affected. Three herbicides were mostly detected in agricultural streams: atrazine, metolachlor, and cyanazine. Recently, the Environmental Protection Agency settled a 2003 lawsuit brought by the Natural Resources Defense Council that forced the government to assess whether atrazine threatens the survival of the endangered Chesapeake Bay sea turtles, Texas salamanders, and 16 other aquatic species.

Mom: The USGS found 40 different pesticides with a widespread presence in streams and sediment in both agricultural and urban areas. Results indicated that concentrations could affect aquatic life and fish-eating wildlife! Fish tissue contained pesticides more than 90 percent

SEE MOM AND POP, PAGE 16

Wey. News 3/22/06

the town council or of the school committee; (2) an emergency measure adopted in conformity with the charter; (3) the town budget or the school committee budget as a whole; (4) revenue loan orders; (5) any appropriation for the payment of the town's debt or debt service; (6) an appropriation of funds to implement a collective bargaining agreement; (7) proceedings relating to the election, appointment, removal, discharge, employment, promotion, transfer, demotion, or other personnel action; (8) any proceedings repealing or rescinding a measure or part thereof which is protested by referendum procedures; (9) any proceedings providing for the submission or referral to the voters at an election; and (10) memorial resolutions and other votes constituting ordinary, routine matters not suitable as the subject of a referendum petition.

In sum, citizens may formally initiate actions in our government by utilizing an initiative process. Also, citizens may protest an adopted measure through a referendum procedure. This article provides a general overview, but anyone considering these options is advised to review Weymouth Charter, Sections 7-7 to 7-9, especially for deadlines, definitions, and technical requirements. So far Weymouth has not had a successful initiative or referendum process completed.

—

Kevin Whitaker, an attorney, serves as a councilor on the Weymouth town council. The opinions expressed herein are his own and offered as a general overview, not as legal advice.

them on a site inspection of Ryder's proposed development in your area. I had attended February's board meeting, and noted very few residents present at his hearing. This concerned me, as I wasn't sure if the word would get to you regarding the site walk.

The plan is to meet at 75 Aster Circle on Saturday, March 25, at 10 a.m., and walk through this detection of an endangered species, we have ample cause for this proposal to be denied. Naturally, the vernal pools and the intertwining wetlands will have some impact on the overall decision of the Conservation Board, but you must do everything possible on your end, now, to add more fuel to the fire.

The zoning board had also invited all interested parties to walk this site with them, during

for the forest and wetlands, for the creatures that made their homes there and for all of us in Weymouth who are fighting to preserve what's left of our natural forestland. So many, with so much to lose, but yet, there is one winner out of this sad quandary—Kenneth Ryder.

—

Lorraine Larrabee is president of the Whitman's Pond Association.

Whitmans focus on pesticides

FROM MOM AND POP, PAGE 15

of the time in agricultural, urban, and mixed land-use areas. The three herbicides used commonly in cities were simazine, prometon, and tebuthiuron.

Pop: Gee I've never heard of most of those pesticides - and I'll wager I'm not alone. I know that pesticides have been beneficial to control weeds, insects and other pests. They have helped reduce the threat of insect-borne disease, and increased food production, but their use raises questions of the possible damage to the environment. Jay Feldman, executive director of the national research and advocacy group Beyond Pesticides, said that the nation's reliance on about 1 billion pounds of pesticides a year indicates an urgent need to strengthen policies at all levels of government to monitor and curtail pesticide use.

Mom: Well, once again we find ourselves in a situation where choices must be made as to the best possible benefit to society. None of us wants to be overrun by insects, and certainly agriculture has to control insects in order to maintain good food production, but a balance must be created. Scientists need to develop new pesticides that are friendly to the environment while controlling the pests - not an easy task. People have not been too receptive to hybrid plants that have been engineered to withstand the onslaught of insects, although they have apparently been sold for quite a while. I've never heard of a gentle poison! And there are always side effects involved with any chemical compound.

Pop: You've hit the nail on the head there, mom. Apparently, the study found that concentrations of individual pesticides almost always complied with the EPA's drinking water standards. I find this evidence shaky because no water samples from streams were taken at drinking-water intakes! The report is based on analysis of data from 51 major river basins and aquifer systems nationally. Included was a study of an aquifer system that runs through 8 states from South Dakota to Texas, east of the Rocky Mountains.

Mom: The study stated that at least one pesticide was found in each of the streams studied, and the fact that the pesticides were found in groundwater gives me cause for great cancer. Drinking water is at a premium today - there just isn't that much available. Once the aquifers become contaminated, that source of water is eliminated. I fear we are sitting on potential future disaster that is silently getting ready to impact humanity with a devastating blow. Let's hope scientists and governments can get together and come up with actions that will eliminate the threat.

—Neil Russo

Hill Roll Call

By Bob Katzen

beaconhill@aol.com

March 13-17, 2006

QUESTIONS

ol.com or call us at (617)720-1562.

Senator
Robert L. Hedlund
(R-Weymouth)
(617) 722-1646
Room 413F

Representative
Ron Mariano
(D-Quincy)
(617) 722-2220
Room 254

Representative
James M. Murphy
(D-Weymouth)
(617) 722-2396
Room 136

votes on one roll call from the week of March 13-17. There were no roll calls in the Senate last week.

ties and powers of the Department of Early Education and Care. A key provision establishes the Massachusetts Univer- children across the state. The department was created by the Legislature in July 2004 to consolidate existing early edu- ould coordinate all public and private prekindergarten education and care programs and services in Massachusetts. Sup- garten education in public and private settings throughout Massachusetts. They noted that this landmark endeavor would e bil l).

Y Y

d Senate approved and sent to Gov. Mitt Romney a bill aimed at curbing gang violence. Provisions include increased f a statewide witness protection program.

nsportation Committee approved and sent to the House legislation abolishing a current law that allows drivers to "oper- e hand remains on the steering wheel at all times." The bill (H 2133) prohibits all drivers from operating a vehicle "while nd imposes a $250 fine for a first offense and $500 for subsequent violations. It does allow the use of "hands-free" cell